

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 27, 1997

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WEEKLY HERALD

The Bay Coast Echo

VOL. 106, NO. 95

BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

SINGLE COPY 50 CENTS

TWO SECTIONS 50 PAGES

Raw sewage backing up in subdivision Human waste overflows toilets?

BY ED LEPOMA

Several residents of the Jourdan River Shores subdivision have complained about raw sewage overflowing into their homes or being dumped into the river.

Inspectors from the state

charge DEW Inspector Ernie Shirley said, "That area is experiencing a lot of growth, and the treatment at the plant needed some adjustment, but it's not a major problem."

Dan Bonin, who has lived on

"At first, I thought my line was stopped up...There was an inch of (human waste) on my floor and toilet paper everywhere...It was the same thing, raw sewage and toilet paper everywhere..."

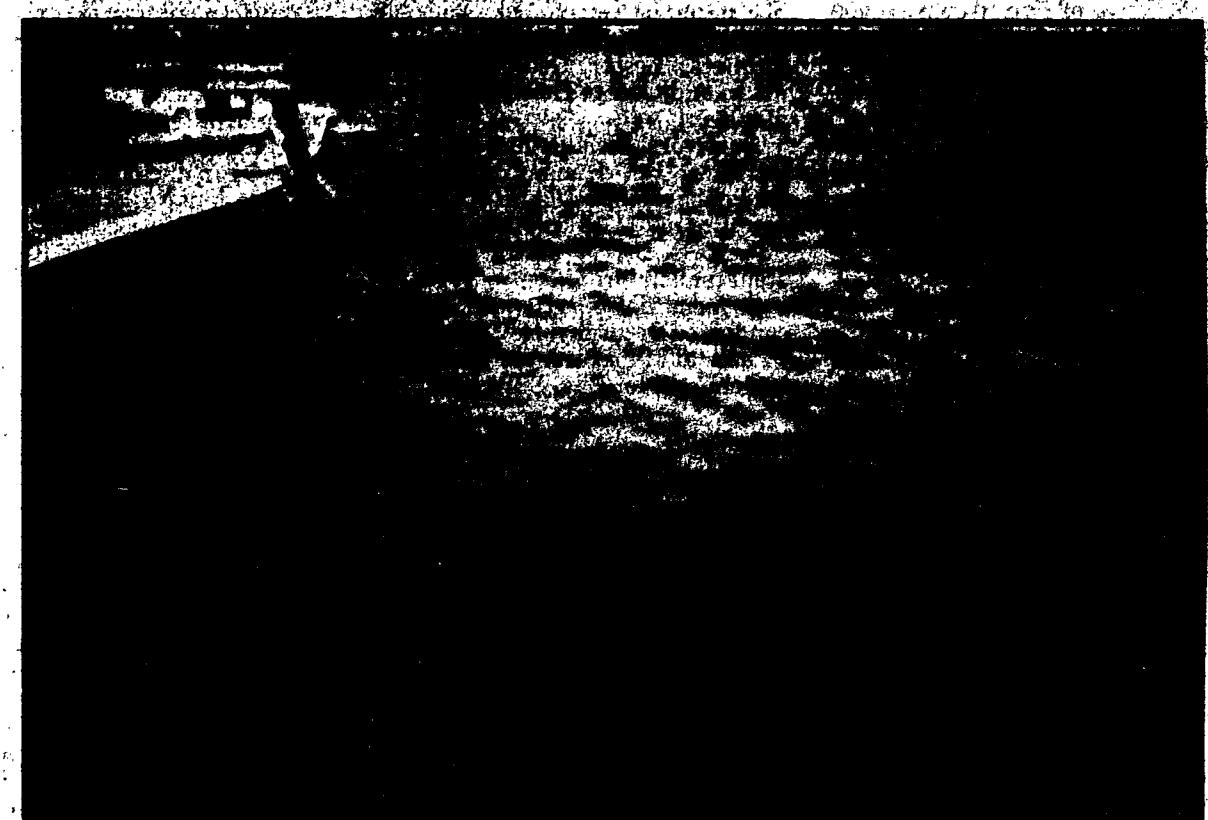
Mrs. Jerry Bazor

Department of Environmental Quality were dispatched from Ocean Springs as recent as last week to check on the small sewerage treatment plant in Hancock County that is owned and operated by Johnson Utilities, but found no major problem with operations or dis-

Pontiac Street directly across from the treatment plant for the last six to seven years, claims sludge from the plant is being dumped directly into the Jourdan River.

"I have been trying for years

WASTE—PAGE 12A



River discharge?

This picture was taken Sunday, Oct. 12 by Dan Bonin, who claims that Johnson Utilities is dumping raw sewage from its treatment plant directly into the Jourdan River on weekends when agencies who can monitor the discharge are not working. (Photo courtesy of Dan Bonin)

P&Z rules against Fleuriet

BY BETSY GAGNET

There was standing room only Monday night when the Waveland Planning and Zoning Commission voted to recommend denial of Alderman Jay Fleuriet's request for a special use variance to operate a home business by a vote of 3-2.

The original vote was 3-1

"Please put personalities and politics aside and just make the decision based on principle..."

Alderman Jay Fleuriet

"I'm not against you having a home occupation...It's got to be limited to one, according to our code, our laws..."

Commissioner Jim Odom

with Commissioner Sue Ashman, Fleuriet's appointee to the Commission, the sole vote in favor of the variance. However, at the end of the meeting, Commissioner Gene Stanbro asked that the vote be taken again, changing his vote to make it 2-2. Rules called for Commission Chairperson Jane Keen to cast the tie-breaking vote.

"Gene petitioned the Commission to change his vote because he said his intention was to vote in favor of the variance," said Waveland Zoning Official Keith Mitchell.

Before making its recommendation, the Commission heard comments from Fleuriet and numerous individuals, both for and against the variance request.

Fleuriet asked Commissioners to "please put personalities

FLEURIET—PAGE 3A

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FLEURIET—PAGE 3A

P&H denied bid for funds

BY RICHARD MITCHELL

The Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission was refused in its attempt to collect \$133,000 from the Board of Supervisors that P&H Commissioners believed should have been earmarked for economic development.

The state Attorney General's office ruled against the Commission in a dispute involving money the county receives from two mills first levied in 1967. The mills were originally used to retire a \$1.75 million bond issued to pay for dredging and other improvements at Port Bienville Industrial Park.

Port Bienville opened in 1964.

P&H—PAGE 12A

Rec. Dept. seeking input

BY RICHARD MITCHELL

Adult volleyball may soon be seen on the beach in Bay St. Louis. Other water sports may follow, and additional activities such as dancing and beach volleyball could be on the way as well.

Les Fillingame of the Bay St. Louis Recreation Department said it is looking to expand beach activities by soliciting comment and additional input before any new programs are implemented. No date has been set.

FOR NEWS, ADVERTISING OR TO SUBMIT A STORY, CALL 652-2211.

OBITS

WARRREN P. BOWE
GERALD M. GOFF
G.P. JERRY HAMANN
RICHARD M. JOHNSON
VERNAL PAGE
EVERT UNDERWOOD
CHARLIE WALKER
DAVID WENZELBURGER

WARREN P. BOWE

Warren P. Bowe, 76, of Diamondhead, died Saturday, Nov. 22, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Bowe was a native of Jamestown, N.D. He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Elks Lodge in Bay St. Louis and the Diamondhead Community Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Mary Bowe.

Survivors include his wife, Janice M. Bowe of Diamondhead; four sons, Rodney W. Bowe of Diamondhead, Jerome P. Bowe of Fort Worth, Texas, Jeffrey A. Bowe of Chicago, and Thomas P. Bowe of Shidell; a daughter, Janelle M. Schumacher of Fargo, N.D.; eight grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

A memorial service was conducted Tuesday at Diamondhead Community Church. Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis was in charge of arrangements.

GERALD M. GOFF

Gerald M. Goff, 56, of Ocean Springs, died Sunday, Nov. 23, 1997, in Ocean Springs.

Mr. Goff had been a lifelong resident of the Coast. He was Union organizer for Locals 436 and 568 for pipefitters and teamsters.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Patty Lynn Goff.

Survivors include a daughter, Laurie Goff Seymour of Ocean Springs; three sons, Douglas M. Goff of Pass Christian, Kelly D. Goff of Daphne, Ala., and Vincent G. Goff of Harvey; two sisters, Melinda Ca-

talantto and Yvonne Urey, both of Ocean Springs; two brothers, Marshall Goff of Tiberville and Anthony Goff of Ocean Springs; his parents, Harvey and Eleanor Goff of Ocean Springs; and three grandchildren.

Visitation was Tuesday evening at Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Home in Ocean Springs. Services were conducted Wednesday at the funeral home with burial in Seymour Cemetery.

G.P. JERRY HAMANN

G.P. "Jerry" Hamann, 84, of Bay St. Louis, died Tuesday, Nov. 25, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Hamann was a native of New Orleans and a member of Main Street Methodist Church in Bay St. Louis. He was a consulting engineer for a television station.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George Sr. and Marie Klein Hamann; and two brothers, Lester George Hamann and George Herman Hamann Jr.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy "Dot" Hamann of Bay St. Louis; a stepdaughter, Connie Bresaux LeBlanc of LaCombe, La., and two stepgrandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted Saturday, Nov. 29 at 11 a.m. at Main Street Methodist church in Bay St. Louis.

In Memoriam
In Loving Memory of
TRUMAN SCHULTZ

I wonder why we are ever born when you are waiting every day for death. Why is it always the most cherished and loved ones that are so dear to your heart and kindred spirits taken away? How much

This time that goes on doesn't heat anything, it only makes you hurt longer and keeps you from ever forgetting.

There is something very special between a father and daughter. When you no longer have that, part of the other's soul is gone as well. Even though your body and soul are no longer here, I know there's something.

On my darkest days and hardest nights I feel you helping me along to stay on the way. Without that my soul too would be gone forever. Missing and wanting so much to still share things in my life with you is the hardest thing I will ever have to endure.

Forever my love,
Your daughter
Tina Schultz-Schwartz

where friends may call after 10:30 a.m.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

The family prefers memorials to Main Street Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 28, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

RICHARD M. JOHNSON

Richard McElhiney (Pop Pop) Johnson, 72, died Sunday, Nov. 9, 1997.

Mr. Johnson was a native of Shreveport. He was a graduate of Tulane University with a degree in chemical engineering. He joined the Tennessee Valley Authority in Muscle Shoals, Ala. and later worked as a research engineer with Celanese Corp. of America in Corpus Christi, Texas, from where he was transferred to Celanese Research Laboratory in Summit N.J. as project manager for engineering research. In 1965 he joined The Exxon Chemical Co., International in New York City and eventually accepted a position of technical director of Tintas Ypiranger (a division of Exxon) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In 1972, Exxon transferred him to Houston where he served as worldwide marketing manager of Carbon Black Oil. Mr. Johnson retired from Exxon in 1987. He was a member at Champions Golf Club.

He was preceded in death by a grandchild, Shannon Janette Lambert.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria Johnson of Houston; his sister, Margaret Williamson of

Diamondhead; son and daughters, Frank W. Johnson of Houston, Janet Johnson Miller of Columbus, Ga., and Peggy Johnson Lambert of Georgetown, Texas; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service was conducted Sunday, Nov. 16 at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church.

The family prefers memorials to The Hospice at the Texas Medical Center, 1905 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030. The Ronald McDonald House, 403 West 15th St., Austin, TX 78701 or the Chaney Patient Education Fund for CTCL Research, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77030.

OBITS—PAGE 7

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In Memoriam

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of
MARGARET HARRIS

Some day, some time, our eyes shall see the face we loved so well.

Some day we'll clasp her loving hand and never say farewell.

We'll never forget you,

Love,

The Lang & Harris Family

Clarify

County attorney Gerald Gex said attorney fees in connection with Hancock County's proposed marina only accounted for "about \$1,952" expended. A story in the Echo last week said a total \$77,100 was spent on legal and engineering fees.

In addition, Gex said the cost of acquiring land was inflated to \$313,000 due to the county having to purchase land for mitigation purposes, since the marina is taking up some wetlands.

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ST. ANN-ST. JOHN NEWS

Thoughts for meditation:
Worry is wasting today's time to clutter up tomorrow, opportunities with yesterday's troubles.

Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:34

Words break no bones, but they do break hearts.

Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 12:18

Those who have known a problem first hand are usually better able to help others walking through the same difficulty.

Praise be to the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

II Corinthians 1:3-4

There has never been a great or beautiful character which has not become so by filling well the ordinary and smaller offices appointed by God.

—Brookfield

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this. He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.

Psalm 37:5-6

A single grateful thought toward heaven is the most perfect prayer.

—George E. Ladd

Today, we are grateful for everyone who has been invited

to bring the bread and wine to be used at their Thanksgiving meal for a special blessing.

Also today, the Holy Infant Triduum Mass will be at St. Ann at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 30, the monthly mass in honor of the Holy Infant of Good Health will be at 10:30 a.m. at St. Ann Church.

Choir practice for Christmas is held every Sunday at St. Ann Church from 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is invited and welcome. We need you.

Sunday Mass, Nov. 30 is at 8 a.m. at St. John Church.

The annual parish covered-dish Christmas party is planned to be Sunday, Dec. 14 at St. Ann immediately after the 10 a.m. mass.

Shirley Lehman has pine fire wood. Anyone interested is asked to call her at 467-5216.

Newcomers to the parish are asked to call or visit the rectory at their convenience so that they may be registered.

We welcome all newcomers to our parish and we invite you to become part of our parish family.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

The greatness of the salvation of man, the greatness of God, teaches love. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the Heavenly Lights.

James 1:17

LAYOU JEWELERS

Today, we are grateful for everyone who has been invited

Bay Artist's Co-op

The Bay Artist's Co-op is holding its third annual Studio Sale on Saturday, Nov. 29 from noon-5 p.m.

This popular local event will feature hand-built ceramic sculpture and thrown pottery by Regan Carney, samples of large thrown pottery by Cary Hammond, hand-built ceramic sculpture and paintings by Christine Johnson, mixed media work by Vicki Lever, stained glass and tiles by A. J. Reed and thrown pottery/raku by Pat Drackett.

Pottery class can be scheduled at this time. Refreshments will be served.

The studio is located at 415 Necessity Ave., Bay St. Louis. Call 467-0073 for information.

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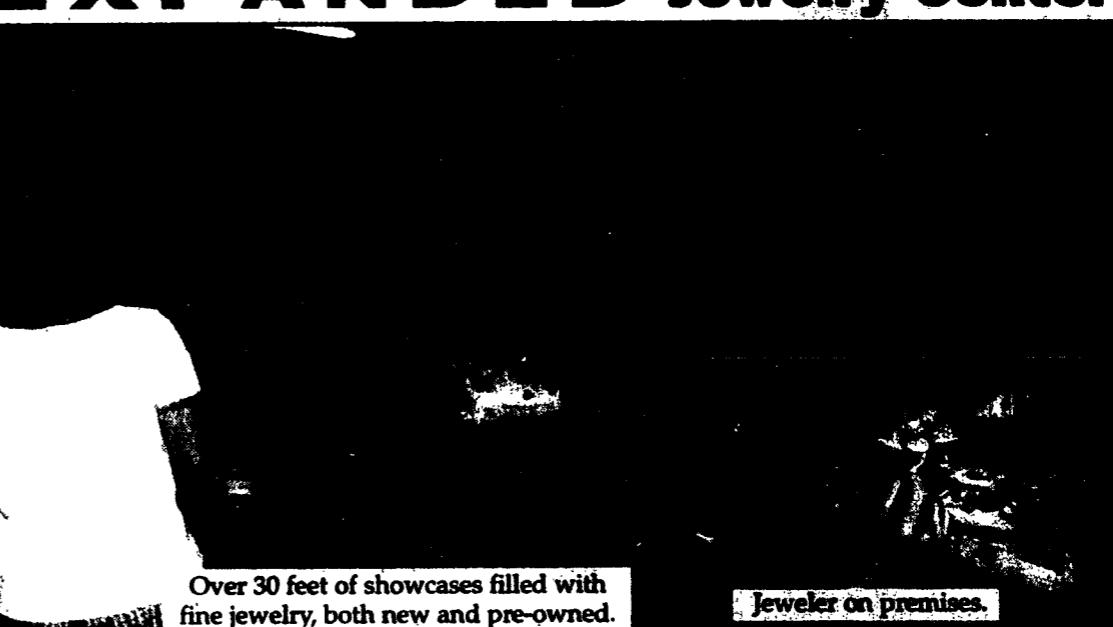
Answers about your knee or hip pain are as close as our free seminar. Learn one-on-one about causes of your problem and the latest treatments, plus tips about medicines, foods and exercise. Straight talk from us can be the first step on your road to recovery.

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"CUEVAS' QUOTES"

By Ellis C. Cuevas

Jerry and Hilda Bourg of Diamondhead were visitors to Hawaii during Veterans Day week.

They visited the Arizona on Veterans Day and were given a special boat trip around Ford Island.

On the boat were the president and treasurer of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

There were only two special boat trips that day, the Bourgs reported. The boats were operated by the Navy in an agreement with the Park Service.

They said the festivities were very elaborate and touching.

I know it is really a moving experience to visit the Arizona, as Jane and I did so in 1981.

Too, I had the honor of writing a story about the late Ken McKenna of Waveland, who was the Quartermaster when the Arizona went down. I also wrote a story on Bill Sanders of Bay St. Louis and his late wife. Bill was on the Curtis across Ford Island from the Arizona and blown from the deck. Sanders late wife Betty was at Waikiki Beach during the Japanese attack.

One of the main points I want to make is that patriotism in our country appears to be on the way out.

This is a problem for most areas of the nation.

As I have mentioned on previous occasions, there is a lack of veterans in high political positions in this country.

We have to remember our veterans, it is because of them we have the freedoms we have in this nation today.

The price of freedom was very costly, as many veterans gave their lives for their country. There are others who went to their grave with the scars of wars, and many still alive with the reminders of what a war causes to those in the military.

We all need to always remember our veterans for what they have done for us.

Many activities are going on in the area through the new year.

As the events approach we will do our best to keep you informed.

One item which has been published to happen on Dec. 4, is still scheduled for that day.

The Hancock County Chamber of Commerce's *Business After Hours* will be held at Adams' Loraine Flower Shop, 317 Ulman Avenue beginning at 5 p.m. on Thursday.

In the haste of the holiday season, a circular with the incorrect date has been distributed about the *Business After Hours* date.

As I have mentioned before, December is a month of many banquets, parties, etc. Too bad some could not be held in other months of the year.

There are days when two or things are happening at the same time that I would like to attend.

Let Us All Give Thanks

Let us walk with God from this day on and give praise to him in all our songs and love him and pray to him all the day long. We thank thee, Father, for the words that we sing and for the happiness that they truly bring.

We thank thee for the flowers that bloom in the early spring and for the little birds and the pretty songs they sing.

We thank thee for our sight and the moon and stars what we see at night.

We give thanks for the sun that shines so bright and for the warmth that comes from its brilliant light.

We thank you for the wind that blows through the trees and sends forth its soft, gentle breeze.

We thank you for the rain that falls to the earth and waters the seeds that give new birth.

We thank you for the breath that we breathe so we can witness to those who might believe.

We thank you for all the songs that we sing and the inspiration that they bring.

Please let us walk with you from this day on, and may all glory be to you as you judge the nations from your great white throne.

— Frank Lewis, Kiln

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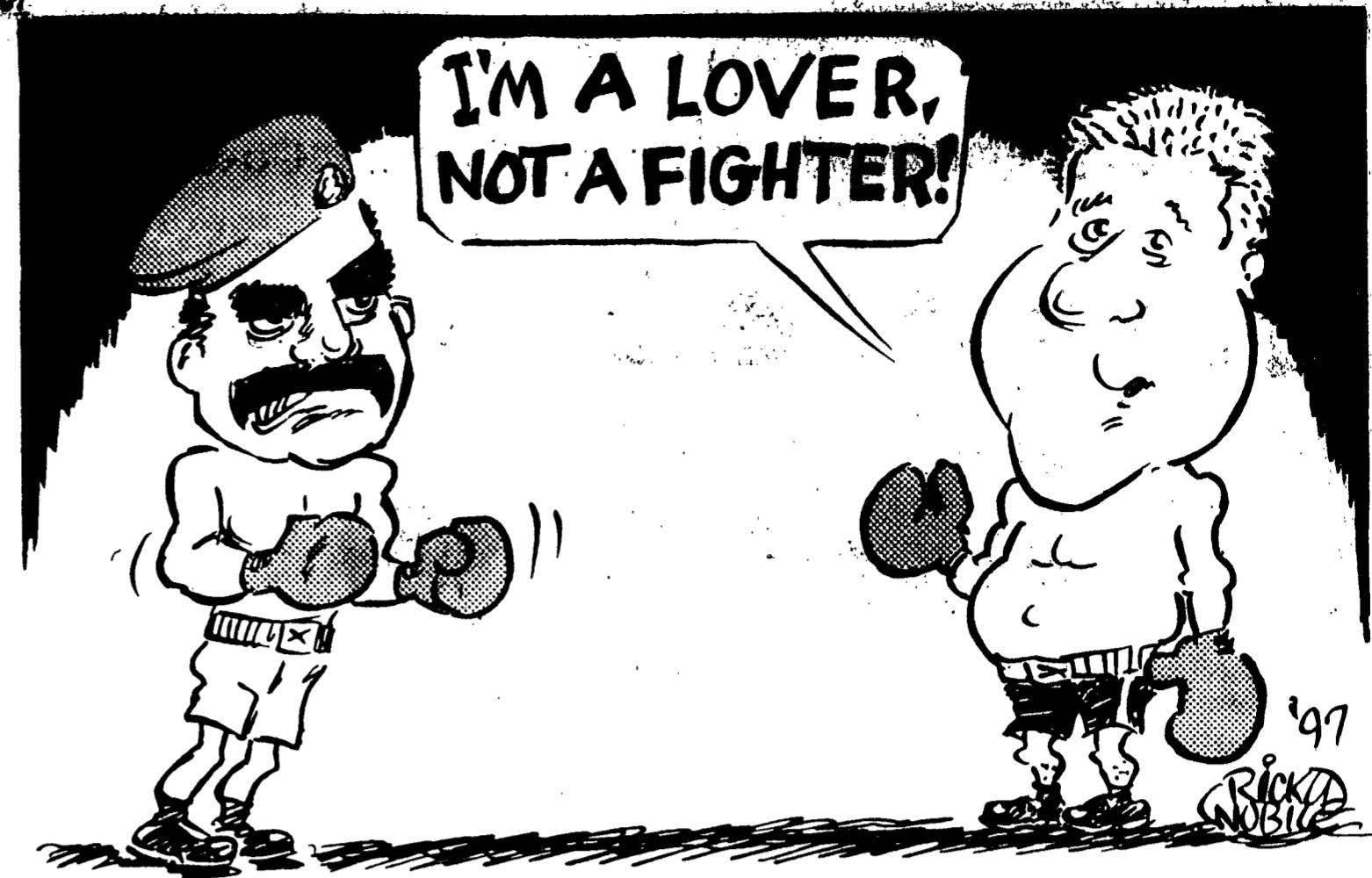
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Mississippi rural water systems — not running dry or falling apart

This column is in response to recently-publicized criticism across the state, leaving the indication that Mississippi's public water supplies are not safe and in deteriorating conditions. Recent legislative hearings and newspaper articles have suggested that the state's public water systems are not monitored closely enough and that insufficient legislation exists to provide adequate scrutiny of the system's management.

The fact is, by law, all public and private water systems with in the state are under the authority of the Mississippi State Department of Health for water safety issues. All such systems are stringently monitored for compliance with state and federal laws. Over the five-year period, Mississippi's water supplies are tested for 86 different contaminants, in addition to a monthly test for bacteriological contaminants.

These are not voluntary tests — they are mandated by existing law. Consequently, the 1996 re-enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act gave the Health Department a tremendous amount of authority in regulating and overseeing all water supply systems in the state, including new authority to fine board members individually for a system's violations of the Act.

A recent local newspaper article stated that rural water systems are not planning for the future, that they are generally old and deteriorating, and that very few of these systems have in place reserve funds for paying general maintenance and emergency expenses.

Out of the state's 751 rural water systems, 515 are borrowers of the Rural Utilities Service (formerly Farmers Home Administration) and are required to contribute monthly to a reserve account for the life of the loan to pay for such expenses.

Approximately 650 of those 751 belong to the Mississippi Rural Water Association, which provides free technical assistance to its members. The MRWA strongly encourages these systems to prepare for the future by building reserve accounts.

The indication by the media that Mississippi's rural water systems are not being maintained is simply not true across the board. Granted, some systems are not properly maintaining their facilities, but numbers speak much louder than words.

In Fiscal Year 1997 (October 1, 1996, through September 30, 1997), approximately \$59 million was either lent or granted for rural water projects in Mississippi by RUS, the state's Community Development Block Grant program, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the state's revolving loan program.

What's more, these same agencies and organizations expect to obligate at least the same amount this year. RUS reports a backlog of requests currently on hand in the amount of \$70 million. Mississippi's rural water system ARE upgrading, and responsibly so.

Recent news articles indicate that a large percentage of the state's rural water systems are "problem systems." Out of RUS's 515 water borrowers, less than five are classified as having serious management problems. And each of those borrowers are currently under some type of aggressive program to correct their deficiencies.

All water systems in the state are required by law to employ certified operators. To obtain and keep certification, an operator must pass an initial written test and complete 48 hours of continuous training over a three-year period.

In addition to operator training, a new state law passed this year will require all board members of rural water associations and towns with populations under 2,500 to receive 8 hours of management training, starting in July 1998. We believe that this new training requirement will have a positive impact on board members by helping them to understand their responsibilities and accountability to their customers more clearly.

Recent news articles quoted Health Department officials as saying that most boil water notices in the state are issued for rural water associations. Here, it is important to note that distribution lines for rural water systems run across miles and miles of rural land, and many times contamination problems are caused by factors such as storms, power outages, people digging into water lines without first checking to find out where they are located, etc. These boil water notices are not always due to poor management or lack of supervision.

Several people complained at a recent legislative hearing that water rates are too high, and that rates are too diverse across the state. Water rates may differ from system to system due to different types of water treatment, different numbers of customers served, and different amounts of debt carried by water systems, among other factors.

MRWA recently conducted a study of water rates across the state, and found that the state's water rates run about \$16.77 for the average residential customer on a system of 500-1,000 customers, using approximately 5,000 gallons per month. RUS officials on the national level stated recently that Mississippi's water rates are among the lowest in the nation.

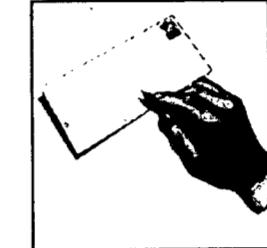
The vast majority of Mississippi's rural water systems are doing an excellent job of management, operation, maintenance, and compliance with state and federal laws. Yet, we recognize that problems do exist with some systems.

Most importantly however, we firmly believe that these problems are solvable at the local level — without government intervention. Laws are already in existence which mandate that all rural water systems are operated along certain guidelines.

We believe that the first step toward solving management problems is involvement. The water associations in essence belong to the communities that they serve, and the customers of these systems already possess a tremendous power in their management: the power of the vote.

The boards of directors are elected by the customers. The customers also have the authority — and the responsibility — to vote

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Student complains about Echo's news coverage

Dear Sir:

I have a few complaints about the Sea Coast Echo.

First off, I would like to complain about an article in the Thursday, Nov. 13 newspaper. The article was about the so-called "graffiti" at the Bay High School.

That should not have been in the newspaper. That should be the personal business of the students, their parents, and Mrs. Reed. How could you put that on

the front page?

Also I would like to complain about the "Court News" section. People don't want their personal problems printed in the newspaper for total strangers to read. In this great land called America, we have the right of privacy.

Please try to correct these faults.

Sincerely,
Emily Liner, 11
Waveland

Waveland resident trying 18 years to get sewerage

To the Editor:

I read what Edward Bailey had to say about Shoreline Park needing sewerage, and I hope the supervisors will take care of this subdivision. And I also hope that they don't overlook

me. I live within the city limits of Waveland and have been begging for a sewer for 18 years.

Sincerely,
Edith T. Grant
Waveland

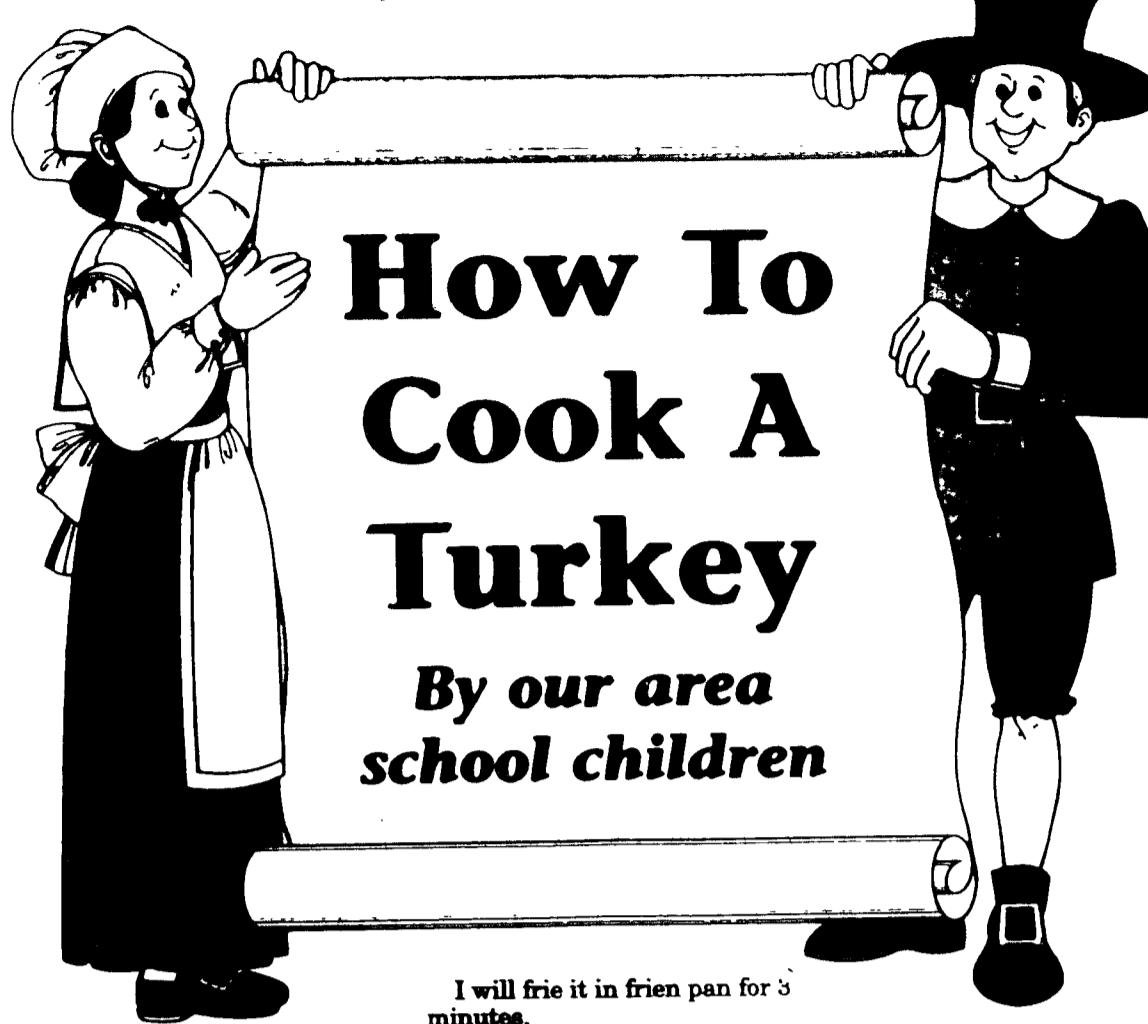


Christmas decorations

Governmental agencies have been busy in recent days in preparation for the Christmas season. City crewmen, Rogers Price, left, and Stanley Christman place special decorations on Bay St. Louis' light poles on Highway 90.

out inadequate board members. We encourage all members of rural water systems to become more involved in the election of their board members, and to attend their annual meetings.

By Pete Boone, Executive Director,
Mississippi Rural Water Association,
P.O. Box 1993, Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1993



The following suggestions on how to deal with the Thanksgiving bird come for second graders of North Bay Elementary.

I can buy it first then clean it's heart and every thing else and once you got every thing clean, then you get to wash it good cause it be bleeding bad than bake it for nine hours and get it out then serve the food to every one then you got a turkey.

Lance Davis

1. I buy it.
2. I take it home and I will take the feathers off.
3. I will cut the meat I will put it in a pot.

4. I will cook it of 9 hours?
5. I'm going to put barbecue sauce.

6. I'm going to eat.
7. And I'm going to cook a cake.

8. They I'm going to buy some pretzel.
9. And I'm going to play with my friends.

James Catching Jr.

I would buy the turkey.
Then wash it with my hand's.
Then cook it then cook it for 20 minutes.

Then serve the table.
Scott Richard

Frist you buy it.
Then you put it in the pan.
Then you put it in the stove for 8 menses.

Then you cook it.
Then you eat it.
Then we will have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Jessica Thompson

1 Go and hunt a turkey.
2 bring it home and pull the feathers off.
3 cut open the turkey and cut out the insides.
4 put it in the stove for 30 minutes.

5 take it out put it on a try and put fruit all around it.
6 and then eat it.

Robert Eberhart

First I would go get it from the store and then I would get the fathers off and then I would put it in the oven for 35 minutes and then we would eat it for thanksgiving

Alex

When I get it I will clean it out with my hands.

I will put salt and pepper I will pat sisin on top of it.

I will frie it in frien pan for 3 minutes.

I will take it of the frien pan an set the table and eat it.

Garrett Sotak

You got to clean it.
You got to put it in the oven for 1 hour

You got to take off the feather

You got to bake it.
You got to eat it.

Nick Buras

My Mom should by the turkey and come home and cook it in the oven for 5 minites and win it's done we take it out and set up the turkey and have a good thanks giving turkey.

Courtney Willumitis

Buy it at the store than take the feather off then put it in the pan then wash it then cook it then put it in the oven for 3 hours then it's out then cut it then eat it

Alycia Ladner

ingredence
get a turkey
stuffing 4 cups
Salt
gravy 15 cups
stove
timer
1 ft. x 2 ft. pan

Get your turkey and stuffing stuff your turkey with the stuffing

set your turkey on the pan poor 5 cups of gravy on the turkey

set it in the stove. Time it for one hour.

When our turkey is done take it out of the stove and poor 5 more cups of gravy and set it in the stove for one more hours.

When the timer goes off take the turkey out take the stuffing and now you poor the rest of the gravy on the turkey and some salt then feast.

John Tennery

Materials:
1 turkey
1 pan — 14 in put the turkey in the pan.

thermometer — to chek to see if the turkey is hot enough.
a tooth pick — to see if the turkey is done.

oven mittens — so you want get burned.

Oven — to cook the turkey in.

First, you need to get a turkey from the shop or you can kill one. Than you need 1 pan so you can put the turkey in it. After that you need to get a thermometer to chek if the turkey is

done. Then you eat it.



6. Then eat it.

Morgan Acker

1. Go buy a turkey.
2. Then go home.
3. Then you pluk the turkey
4. Then you put it in the oven
5. for 9 hours. Then win it is
6. dun I put some pepper.
Then I

7. will eat the turkey.

First you buy a turkey.
Next you wash the turkey.
Then you take to guts out of the turkey.

After you do that, you put seasoning on the turkey.

After you do that, you put the turkey in the oven, it will take about an hour.

Then after that, you take it out of the oven and eat it.

Heather Schmottlach

1. first buy the turkey.
2. second you get a ingredients book.

3. third you get the stuff for it.

4. fourth you stuff it with stuffing.

5. fifth you cook it for 8 hours.

6. sixth you eat it.

Pull the inside of the turkey out.

thin put the seasoning on the turkey.

thin put the turkey and the oven of 2 hours.

thin you have a thanksgiving turkey.

Mercedes Lester

First cook the turkey

Then eat the turkey.

Kevin Van Peski

1 Kill it.

2 Buy it.

3 take that red stuff out of the turkey.

4 cook it for 15 minites.

Marie Garside

You kill him.

Cut his feters off

Cut his head off

Cut his tail off

Cut his feet off

Wash him.

Put him in the oven

Take him out

Eat him.

Brunetta Barnes

First you catch a turkey. Put it in the boiler pot with hot water. Let it cook for a while and go check on it and see if it is all right. Then, it is time to eat.

Frank Gentry

1. Get a turkey

2. Cook it

3. Make dressing

4. Take all the bones out it

5. Put bell pepper on it

6. Read the recipe

Brennan Bell

Get a turkey make dressing pour vegtable oil on it take the stuff out of it Season it with salt and a peper cook it then you eat it.

Camille Keith

1. Get a Turkey.

2. Put flour on it.

3. Read the recipe.

4. Take all the stuff out of it.

5. Pour vegetable oil on the turkey.

6. Get some water on pour it on the turkey.

7. Get a pan to set it on.

8. Season it with salt and peppe.

9. Put it in the oven and cook it.

10. Cook it put it in the oven for 350 min' F

11. Eat

Catherine Hammond

1. Make a recipe

2. Get a turkey

3. Clean the turkey out

4. make dressing

5. get a pan to set it on

6. pour vegetable oil on the turkey

7. Get a pan to set it on.

8. Season it with salt and peppe.

9. Put it in the oven and cook it.

10. Cook it put it in the oven for 350 min' F

11. Eat

Kristen Lynn Tillery

Put the turkey in a pot of bling hot wather. Wait for 30 minutes at 350° then put 10 spoons of seasoning.

Sarah Graves

Mom puts it in the pot. It sits for a our and I will put the salt.

When it is done we eat.

7. put the turkey in the oven for 20 min.

Tiffany Carver

1. Buy a turkey.

2. Take all of the stuff out of it.

3. Clean it.

4. Season it with salt and pepper.

5. put it in the oven or 8 hours at 100° F.

6. get a pan to set it on.

7. put bell pepper on it.

Bryan Schneider

Charles B. Murphy students suggest how to cook a turkey:

You put salt on turkey

You put pepper on turkey

You put hot sauce on turkey

You put milk on turkey

You put eggs on turkey

You put cereal on turkey

You put ravolli on turkey

You put microwave and the oven.

Some more salt and peper, some macaroni and cheese some sage and biscuit and some pickle and hamburger and hotdogs

Stir it up.

Jake

First buy a turkey. Then put some water it. Then you clean it. Then put it in the pan. And cook it in the oven and eat.

Brittany Bentley

Bay a fresh turkey and clean it then you put the paper in side of it then the seesone. And you put it in the ovin and let it stay in ther for at least 5 minies then you set the table you put the silver war down and the plates down put the rest of the food on the table then the turkey on the table then enjoy.

By Darelle

My mom put "1 cup of water" 3 chopped onions and 2-3 minutes in the oven 350°

I love this turkey

Ashley Gibson

Clean the turkey. Let it soak. Take out the guice put a thermometer in it. Take out the heart and cook it.

Khristian Brixie

Mom will buy the turkey and chop it up and put it up in the microwave and set it for 10 minutes until they get there.

Amanda Crosby

I will buy a turkey and clean it and put salt and peper and then I will bake it then I will put it on the table and cut it and put it in the bowl.

Donald

Step one get a turkey. Step two put turkey into stove put temperture about 245. Step three put cooking oil on turkey. Step four let turkey sit.

Ian Ferguson

I will put my turkey in the oven

I will put juice and pineapples.

I will cook it an put it in the oven and bake it good.

Kristen Lynn Tillery

Put the turkey in a pot of bling hot wather. Wait for 30 minutes at 350° then put 10 spoons of seasoning.

Sarah Graves

Mom puts it in the pot. It sits for a our and I will put the salt.

FEMA awards Hancock \$12,676 emergency funds

BY ERIN C. CURVAS

Hancock County has been awarded \$12,676 in federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

The federal funds issued by FEMA are to supplement food and shelter programs in the area.

A meeting of the local board to discuss these funds to qual-

ifying agencies will be held on Wed., Dec. 3, 1 p.m., in the offices of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 307-C Coleman Avenue, Waveland.

Eligible agencies seeking consideration, or information on the program, should contact Joseph Varino, St. Clare Conference of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Waveland at 467-0703 no later than Dec. 2.

Biloxi Rotary Club to sponsor KidCare events

The Biloxi Rotary Club is hosting Project KidCare Photo ID events on Saturday, Dec. 6 as part of a national effort to

A Tribute To My Mother

Born Dec. 23, 1920
Deceased Nov. 27, 1994

Mother, it has been three years, and the memory of you will never fade. You see, Mother, you were the light of our lives, the heart of our family, not only for me (Geri) your only child, but also for your grandchildren, sisters, brothers, nieces, nephews. All they had to do was to ask.

My mother was a beautiful flower, and the Good Lord called her home. I have seen her so many times go into her freezer to help feed someone in need of food, also in her closet giving clothes and shoes and what little money she had. Mother would share that, too.

I know Jesus is smiling on you. The Lord wants the best and when He (Jesus) called you home he got the best, the flower that will never wither, the servant that never gets tired doing for others.

I'm so proud to have had you for a mother. The family wishes you a Happy Birthday.

Sadly missed,
Daughter Geri,
Son-in-law Riley,
Grandchildren,
and Sister Theima

provide parents with personal safety IDs of their children in the event that their child is ever missing.

At Edgewater Mall from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and at the Pass Road Wal-Mart in Biloxi from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., parents can obtain free, standardized, high quality photographs of their children from their KidCare ID booklet in which they can also record and maintain their children's current vital statistics.

Project Kid Care, developed by Polaroid Corporation in conjunction with The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), is a program designed to raise awareness of child safety and provide parents with an effective tool to aid law enforcement authorities in the search for a missing child.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, over one million children are reported missing in our country each year. We believe that increasing awareness about missing children has never been more critical, and we're pleased we can play a role in helping parents safeguard their children," said Mitch Kalom of the Biloxi Rotary Club.

"Everyone has pictures of their children, but most parents don't have a suitable photograph if their child becomes lost or missing," explained Ernest Allen, president of NCMEC.

For information, contact Reed Guice at 388-8511 or Mitch Kalom at 1-800-354-8230.

Continued from page 2

Obits

Get the obituary of the deceased in the obituary section.

VERNAL PAGE
Vernal "Goody" Page, 52, of Pass Christian, died Saturday, Nov. 22, 1997, in Gulfport.

Mr. Page was a member of St. Stephen Catholic Church in DeLisle. He worked at Coast Material. He attended high school in Taylorville.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ransom Page; his mother, Gracie Lee Page; and a brother, Russell Page Sr.

Survivors include his wife, Veronica Page of DeLisle; four sons, Glenn Page of Pass Christian, Vernel Page and Scottie Page, both of Jacksonville, Fla., and Jerrid Page of Philadelphia; a sister, Mary Lee Barnes of Indianapolis; five brothers, Rainey H. Paige, Julius Page, Sidney Page and Abel Page, all of DeLisle, and Larry Page of St. Petersburg, Fla.; and five grandchildren.

Services were conducted Tuesday at St. Stephen Catholic Church. Burial was in St. Stephen Catholic Cemetery in DeLisle.

Lockett-Williams Mortuary in Gulfport was in charge of arrangements.

EVERT UNDERWOOD

Evert L. Underwood, 77, of Bay St. Louis, died Monday, Nov. 24, 1997, in Slidell.

Mr. Underwood was born in Talihina, Okla., and had been a resident of Bay St. Louis for 13 years. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and was a retired accountant for a petroleum company. He was a member of the American Legion Post 77 in Bay St. Louis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Louis King and Nellie Mae Wade Underwood.

Survivors include his wife, Lewana Margaret Darcey Underwood of Bay St. Louis; a daughter, Mrs. Judith Ann Hill of Phoenix, Ariz.; a son, Kevin Underwood of Bay St. Louis; two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Continued from page 2

CHARLIE WALKER
Mr. Charlie Walker, 51, of Pass Christian, died Wednesday, Nov. 19, 1997, in Pass Christian.

Mr. Walker was sent from J. T. Hall Funeral Home in Gulfport to J. and Mr. Funeral Home in Mendenhall.

DAVID WENZELBURGER
David Hugh Wenzelburger, 48, of Bay St. Louis, died Saturday, Nov. 22, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Wenzelburger was a native of Pittsburgh. He was a meteorologist and a member of American Legion Post 139 in Bay St. Louis. He retired from NAVO at Stennis. He was a U.S. Navy veteran having served in the Vietnam War. Mr. Wenzelburger retired from the Navy after 28 years of service.

He was preceded in death by his father, David C. Wenzelburger.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara M. Wenzelburger of Bay St. Louis; a son, David John Davis of Albuquerque, N.M.; a daughter, Hizuru Wenzelburger of Chadsworth, Ga.; two stepdaughters, Cynthia Sue Davis of Virginia Beach, Va., and Patricia R. Voltner of Germany; his mother, Donna Wenzelburger of Bay St. Louis; his grandmother, Gladys Duff of Bay St. Louis; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service was conducted Wednesday in the chapel of Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis, followed by graveside services in Biloxi National Cemetery.

The family prefers memorials to Hancock Volunteer Fire and Rescue.

COURT

Circuit Court

COURT DATES

Nov. 10-31

State of Mississippi vs Jacob Wayne McTaggart, defendant sentenced to community service for burglary of a dwelling.

State of Mississippi vs B. J. Starlight aka Michael Faulkner, arrest warrant issued, bond forfeited.

State of Mississippi vs Joey Dale Copus, bond forfeited, arrest warrant issued.

State of Mississippi vs Daniel E. Bourgeois, bond forfeited, arrest warrant issued.

State of Mississippi vs Paul Blackwell, case dismissed.

Frankie L. Necaise vs Forrest Pearson and James R. Fretwell, case dismissed.

Siemens Medical Systems, Inc. vs H. B. Herring Jr. d/b/a H. B. Herring Company, personal summons issued.

Kenny Ray Ladner vs Tammy L. Green, case dismissed.

State of Mississippi vs Leon Joseph Delorette, defendant found not guilty.

State of Mississippi vs Fritz James Garcia, defendant ordered to Whiffield for mental evaluation.

Bobby Ray Anderson vs State of Mississippi, motion to clarify sentence denied.

State of Mississippi vs Bernard Eugene Moran, defendant sentenced to 8 years, 6 suspended for five counts of burglary of a dwelling.

State of Mississippi vs Joey Dale Copus, previous failure to appear judgment set aside.

State of Mississippi vs Daniel E. Bourgeois, previous failure to appear judgment set aside.

Terry R. Lemon vs Commissioner of Public Safety, plaintiff awarded First Offender's Hardship License.

State of Mississippi vs Ivory Gil-lum, probation terminated.

State of Mississippi vs Pamela Hansen Alphonso, defendant pled guilty to fraud; sentenced to 3 years, all suspended; restitution ordered.

State of Mississippi vs Robert Lee Carter, defendant pled guilty to lesser charge of trespass less than larceny; sentenced to 6 months, all suspended; restitution ordered.

State of Mississippi vs Sandra A. Jordan, defendant pled guilty to grand larceny; sentenced to 5 years, suspended to time served; 2 years probation, restitution ordered.

State of Mississippi vs Michael Shaun Wyman, bond revoked.

State of Mississippi vs Stacie Alane Ciriello, bond revoked.

State of Mississippi vs Alva N. Hopson, bond forfeited.

State of Mississippi vs Jamie Jel-est Lewis, defendant sentenced to 3 years, 18 months suspended, for possession of a controlled substance.

State of Mississippi vs Jacob Wayne McTaggart, defendant pled guilty to 2 counts of burglary of a dwelling, sentenced to 6 years, 2 suspended, restitution ordered.

Luveray Young vs Jay Hosty, case dismissed.

W. C. Fore Trucking, Inc. vs Hancock County Board of Supervisors, case dismissed.

Robert N. Dressner vs State of Mississippi, City of Bay St. Louis; Clerk of Bay St. Louis shall transmit file to court, trial date set.

State of Mississippi vs Albert Haskel Mullins, defendant found guilty of sexual battery, sentenced to 15 years.

State of Mississippi vs Mikki Lynn Evans, bond forfeited.

Peter N. Lewis vs State of Mississippi, revocation of probation set aside; hearing set.

Gary Slayton vs James Ingram, Commissioner of Public Safety, motion to reconsider denied.

State of Mississippi vs Alva N. Hopson, judgment of failure to appear set aside; defendant released on bond.

State of Mississippi, City of Waveland vs Michael Shane Anderson, defendant found guilty of disturbing the peace; not guilty of reckless driving and disobeying an officer, fined \$100.

State of Mississippi vs Alva Hopson, defendant pled guilty to 2 counts of fraud, sentenced to 6 years, 5 suspended; fined \$1,000 on each count, \$500 on each count suspended; restitution ordered.

State of Mississippi vs Douglas William Bourgeois, defendant pled guilty to burglary of a business, sentenced to 7 years, 3 suspended.

John Yaniga vs Emile Ragas and Joanna Ragas, case dismissed.

State of Mississippi vs Doral D. Nichols, defendant pled guilty to 3 counts of uttering forgery, sentenced to 15 years, 5 suspended.

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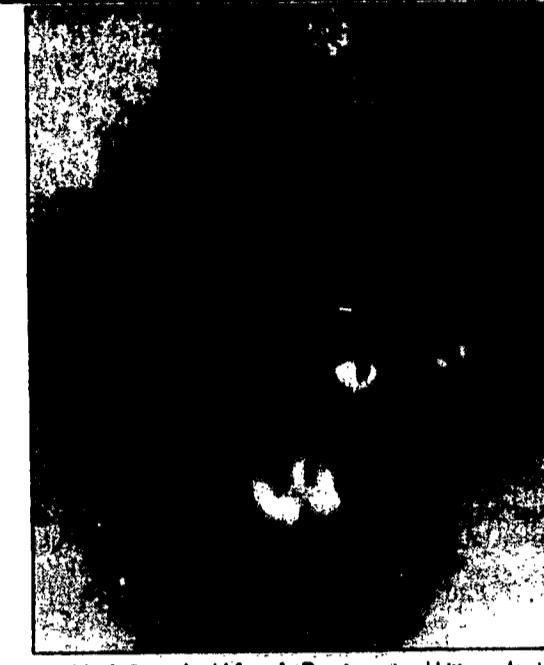
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Please complete this form and return to any one of the following locations:

**City Hall Annex, 111 Court St.
Drive-up payment window**

**Historic City Hall, 300 Second St.
Building Permit Office, First Floor**

Name _____

Address _____

Children, please list their ages.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

list the number from your household interested in the following:

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Volleyball (Beach)				
Basketball				
Soccer				
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Racquetball				
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Jogging Club				
Swimming				
Martial Arts				
Self Defense				
Dance				
Summer Youth Camp				
Scrap Box Derby				
Rugby				
Disc Golf				
Flag Football</				

SPORTS

THE SEA COAST ECHO—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1997

Bob Harmon Football Forecast

NFL Forecast

Thursday, Sunday and Monday,

Nov. 27, 30 and Dec. 1

**Dallas, 24—Tennessee, 18

(Thursday) If desperation plays a role, this could be a great game, between teams that must win to keep their playoff hopes alive. The Cowboys won their last meeting with the Oilers, in 1994, 20-17.

**Detroit, 30—Chicago, 12

Led by Barry Sanders' 161 yards of rushing and Scott Mitchell's pinpoint passing, the Lions mauled the Bears in Week Three, 32-7. Chicago still has no way to stop Detroit's running game.

Carolina, 20—New Orleans, 10

(Sunday) The Panthers ruined Saints QB Danny Wuerffel's first NFL start in October, sacking him seven times and picking him off twice in a 13-0 win. Carolina will take its fourth in a row from N.O.

Denver, 28—**San Diego, 13

Despite leaving San Diego behind in the AFC West in '96, the Broncos had their hands full with the Chargers, losing to them 16-10 in S.D. after beating them 28-17. It won't happen again.

**Jacksonville, 23—Baltimore, 15

Replacing the injured Mark Brunell, Rob Johnson threw a late 28-yard TD pass to Jimmy Smith to lead the Jaguars past the Ravens 28-27 on opening day. Baltimore is 0-3 against Jacksonville.

Miami, 21—**Oakland, 19

Last year's 17-7 Oakland win over the Dolphins extended the Raiders' streak against Miami in Oakland to nine games. This time the Dolphins will win a close one, with bells filling the air.

**New England, 35—Indianapolis, 9

Drew Bledsoe threw four TD's in New England's 31-6 rout of Indianapolis 12 weeks ago. Are the Patriots, who've outscored the Colts 85-28 in their last three matchups, ripe for an upset? Nah.

N.Y. Jets, 19—**Buffalo, 16

Sacking Neil O'Donnell eight times, the Bills spoiled Bill Parcells's home debut as N.Y.'s head coach in Week Two, winning their fifth straight over the Jets, 28-22. This one's a toss-up.

**Philadelphia, 26—Cincinnati, 10

The Bengals have won six of their seven games against the Eagles, most recently 33-30 in '94. Philly remains one of the league's statistically superior mediocre teams, and should dominate.

Pittsburgh, 29—**Arizona, 14

It's been three years since the Steelers last met the Cardinals — and lost in OT in Arizona. Pittsburgh doesn't have much of a passing game, so it will beat the hapless Cards on the ground.

San Francisco, 27—**Kansas City, 20

A possible Super Bowl matchup? The 49ers may get that far in spite of their weak air game, but the Chiefs won't unless they improve their woeful pass defense. K.C. beat S.F. 24-17 in '94.

**Seattle, 33—Atlanta, 18

The Seahawks and Falcons haven't butted heads since '91, when Atlanta beat Seattle for the first time after four losses. The Hawks should take control of this game early through the air.

Tampa Bay, 21—**N.Y. Giants, 14

Here's one of the week's more telling matchups, between teams with better records than they should have given the fact that neither has a competitive defense. N.Y. was a 207 winner in '92.

Washington, 27—Chicago, 19

Every game is a must-win for the Redskins, who are better on both sides of the ball than the Rams. Last year Washington intercepted three passes on the way to putting St. Louis away 17-10.

**Minnesota, 28—Green Bay, 24

(Monday) In September the Packers jumped out to a 31-7 lead over the Vikings and survived Minnesota's second-half comeback, 38-32. Once again, there'll be much more offense than defense on display.

** denotes home team

College Highlights for Nov. 28-29

If anyone's going to stop Nebraska's march to a national title, it won't be Colorado, which has lost five in a row against the Huskers since managing a tie in 1991. They meet on Friday in Boulder, Colo., exactly a year after Nebraska's last win over the Buffaloes, 17-12, on an ugly, rainy day in Lincoln, Neb.

In that game the Huskers offense churned up 238 yards on the ground while the defense held Colorado to a '96 season-low 51 rushing yards and sacked Buffaloes QB Koy Detmer three times. Home field or no, Colorado will have just as tough a time this weekend.

The home crowd will make a difference, though, in two big games in which we're predicting upsets. In Charlottesville, Va., on Saturday, the Virginia Cavalier will sneak past Virginia Tech by three points for their first win over the Hokies since '94. Last year in Blacksburg, No. 17 Virginia Tech beat No. 20 Virginia 26-9, capping the Hokies' first 10-win season. Tech scored 19 unanswered second-half points in a game that featured a total of 820 yards of offense, but this time we think the defenses — and Virginia's in particular — will figure more prominently.

We also like Michigan State over Penn State in East Lansing, Mich. The Spartans will not only be at home, but they'll be juiced by memories of a near-upset a year ago, when the seventh-ranked Nittany Lions edged them 32-29.

There were four lead changes in that game before Brett Conway booted the winning 30-yard field goal with 12 seconds left — after Michigan State's Chris Gardner missed a 33-yarder on the previous possession. This season, Penn State isn't the team everyone thought it was in September, and the Spartans will end their losing streak to the Lions at four.

In the South, Georgia looks like a lock to win its seventh in a row over interconference rival Georgia Tech. Mississippi State will beat Mississippi for the fourth time in five years, and Syracuse should be a TD better than Miami.

Our forecasting accuracy is as high as it's been in years. Through Nov. 15 we've been right 1,700 times and wrong 500, a success rate of 76%.

The Harmon Forecast

Thursday, Nov. 27

*Alabama State 26
*St. John's (N.Y.) 31

Friday, Nov. 28

*Arizona State 29
*LSU 35
Nebraska 34
*Texas A&M 27
*West Virginia 30

Saturday, Nov. 29

Georgia 20
*Michigan State 22
*Mississippi State 21
Notre Dame 24
Southern-Baton Rouge 29
Syracuse 28
*Tennessee 42
*Virginia 16

Saturday, Dec. 6

Navy 33
Army 9

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mississippi's traditional regular season finale against its instate rival has become more important. It appears that more than pride will be on the line.

Ole Miss (6-4, 3-4 Southeastern Conference), trying to get into its first bowl game since 1992, may face a must-win situation at No. 22 Mississippi State after losing 21-14 to Georgia on Saturday. "It's a big game and it's up for grabs. We definitely don't want to lose next week," said Ole Miss linebacker Nate Wayne. "We're not sure we're going to a bowl. Nobody has said we are even in a bowl. We're just eligible."

Mississippi State (7-3, 4-3) blew a chance to win the SEC West title with its 17-17 loss Saturday at Arkansas. The Bulldogs now might also have to win in the Egg Bowl on Saturday in Starkville just to have another game this season.

"Both of us deserve a chance to play in a bowl no matter what happens next Saturday," said Ole Miss coach Tommy Tuberville. "I would hope the winner would go to one bowl and the loser to another."

But with seven SEC teams bowl-eligible, that may not happen. A more plausible scenario could have the Ole Miss State winner advancing to play No. 23 Southern Mississippi, the Conference USA champion, in the Dec. 31 Liberty Bowl at Memphis, Tenn.

Georgia also plays its instate rival in its regular season finale, but the game at Georgia Tech won't affect the Bulldogs' chances of winning

its first SEC title since 1992. Their fate will be determined in Knoxville, Tenn.

It is a longshot, but if Vanderbilt (3-7, 0-7) wins at No. 3 Tennessee (9-1, 6-1), it would create a three-way tie for the SEC East lead.

Tennessee or Georgia will advance to play 13th-ranked Auburn, the SEC West champion, in the league's title game in Atlanta on Dec. 6.

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SSC falls to Gulfport, 80-73

BY JOSEPH GEX II

The St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws dropped an 80-73 decision to seventh-ranked Gulfport Tuesday at the Brother Peter Memorial Gym.

The game saw the Rocks fall behind by 20 points three times and three times the Rocks battled to within seven points, led by junior forward Paul Farve. Farve, who had a game-high 22 points, scored all of his points in the second half and was 18 of 19 from the foul line.

The Admirals opened the scoring behind Andre Simpson's jump shot. SSC's Derek Bradley answered with a jumper of his own to tie the score. Then Gulfport went on a 11-0 run to push the score to 13-2 at the 4:38 mark of the first period.

Bradley put the Rocks back on the scoreboard with a 12-foot jumper and scored the Rocks' next two baskets to cut the deficit to 15-9 at the 3:17 mark.

Junior Davis hit a three-pointer at the 2:49 mark to cut the score to 18-12. Gulfport rounded out the scoring in the first period by hitting a jumper at the buzzer to push the score to 25-14.

Brantley Ladner opened the second period for SSC by scoring two baskets before Synerik Taylor nailed a three-pointer for Gulfport to make the score 30-18 at the 5:25 mark.

The Rocks kept the game close during the second period, not letting the Admirals extend their lead more than 10 points.

Honore Hazeur hit the last bucket of the half to close the lead 40-31 just before intermission.

In the second half, the Rocks came out sluggish and the Admirals took advantage of the slump, going on an 11-0 run to start the period. Gulfport extended the lead to 20 points at 51-31.

Farve ended the Gulfport run with a two-point basket and foul shot to cut the lead to 51-34. The Rocks followed with a 9-0 run, led by Davis, to cut the Admiral lead to 55-44 at the 3:05 mark.

However, with 48 seconds remaining in the third period, the

Admirals hit a three-pointer to extend their lead to 58-44.

The Rocks' junior varsity also won, 5-0 over the Tiger JV. The Tigers' varsity and junior varsity have a record of 1-1 on the season.

SSC junior high 6, Ocean Springs 2

The St. Stanislaus junior high soccer team beat the Ocean Springs Greyhounds 6-2. Stephen Kulikowski led the scoring with two goals, followed by teammates Drew Cranford, Jeffrey Hansell, Matt Johnson and Carlos Narro with one each. Johnson also had two assists. Goalkeeper Todd Farrar made eight saves.

The junior high Rocks are off to a 3-0 start.

OLA 2, Harrison Central 1

Our Lady Academy improved its record to 4-0 with a 2-1 win over Harrison Central Friday night. Kristin Cannon scored both goals for the Crescents.

In junior varsity action, OLA lost to Mercy Cross 1-0 Monday night in Bay St. Louis. Natalie

Nov. 10

High Game/Series Handicap: Doris Netherly 232-644, Ethel Gladney 230-653, June Watkins 226-614, Clementine Sheppard 225-632, Rochelle Buchanan 225, JoAnn Cucurullo 222-615, Judi Marks 220, Lois Kagle 217, Elaine Willins 217, Mary Marroy 216, Sharon Fayard 211-604, Mary Matto 209, Joan Parson 208, Betty Marshall 207, Elaine Spiers 205, Heidi Pollard 204.

Nov. 17

High Game/Series Handicap: Ethel Gladney 241-686, Elaine Spiers 228, Elaine Willins 228, Carla Santiago 225, JoAnn Cucurullo 223, Sharun Fayard 222-644, Denise Poulton 220, Irene LeGros 220, Barbara Cadoret 218, Hilda Bourg 214.

Jean Dorman 213, Shirley Cronin 211, Mary Marroy 211, Carol Guilmine 210, Muriel Ozanne 209, Joan Parsons 208, Clementine Sheppard 205, Mary Matto 208, Betty Marshall 202.

Admirals had once again extended their lead to 20 points after a 10-1 run. Farve stopped the Gulfport attack, nailing two free shots with 44 seconds remaining in the third period, but Gulfport's Taylor nailed a jumper at the buzzer to put the Rocks down 67-47 at the end of three quarters.

The fourth quarter belonged to Farve as he scored 13 of 22 points in the final stanza. Gulfport opened the final period with two baskets before Stephen Peterman nailed a put-back with 6:41 remaining in the game to push the score to 71-49.

Peterman's basket ignited an 8-0 run for the Rocks that pulled the score to 71-55 at the 3:53 mark.

For the last 3:20 of the fourth period the Rocks held the Admirals to six points as Farve worked the floor. SSC scored seven straight points, highlighted by Bradley's three-pointer at the 2:14 mark, to bring the deficit to 73-62.

SSC went on a 9-3 run in the final 1:11 with Farve tallying six points to bring the Rocks to within seven points at 78-71.

Rock coach Jay Ladner said, "We showed a lot of character tonight. Three times Gulfport extended their to 20 points and three times we battled back. (Farve) got in a groove and drove to the basket and drawing fouls."

"I feel that we have improved since our first game against Biloxi but we still have a lot of improving to do. Gulfport features (Taylor), one of the top players in the state, and (Bradley) held him below his scoring average. We played with class and character tonight despite giving up about four inches at each position."

Ladner finished by saying, "As a team we are 3-1 since the opening week. Our overall record is 3-4 right now but two of those losses came to top ten teams and two were nailbitters to local rivals."

The Rocks will entertain Oak Grove on Dec. 2 in a District 7-4A contest. SSC is 3-4 overall and 1-0 in the district. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m. in the new stadium in Alcorn.

Mitchell had a goal called back on an offside penalty.

The Crescents will be in action again Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

in Long Beach. The JV squad

will face the Bay High Lady Ti-

gers' junior varsity Thursday at

5:30 p.m.

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Casino Magic

Entertainment

BAY ST. LOUIS

Nov. 27, The No Idea Band
Nov. 28-29, Irma Thomas
Nov. 28, Wayne Newton in the Magic Dome at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$35, \$45 and \$60. Call 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 for ticket information.

Nov. 30, The No Idea Band
*Football specials every Sunday.

All shows at 8 and 10:30 p.m.
Sunday shows at 6 and 8:30 p.m.

For information, call 1-800-5-MAGIC-5, ext. 4015.

Monday Night Football At Casino Magic only

Beginning every Monday at 5 p.m., guests may choose one square off the football prize board. Entry is free. Just pick up your "pick slip" at the Magic Money Players Club, sign your name and watch to win up to \$2,000 a week.

There's a chance to win every quarter:

1st and 3rd quarter prize: \$125

2nd quarter prize: \$250

Final prize: \$500

Each winner also receives a square on the Superbowl board.

Mondays Get Even Better with Buddy D

Every Monday Buddy D will broadcast live from Casino Magic Bay St. Louis with Mike Detillier. Showtime is 6:15-7:45. Going on now!

When Buddy D predicts the exact game score and your name is on the winning square, you win an additional \$1,000.

Food and drink specials will be available during Sunday and Monday games. Promotion ends Jan. 26. (Plus don't miss the beer girls every Monday night during football season.)

Bay St. Louis

Football Menu

Monday Night Football menu is as easy as 1-2-3:

1,2,3 HOT

\$1, NFL Party Snack — Nachos topped with cheese and Jalapenos

\$2, Tailgater "Bucket of Burgers" — five piping hot mini Magic burgers

\$3, Hall of Fame "Joe's Wings" — served medium hot with cool celery and dressing

1,2,3 COLD

\$1, All American "Long Necks" — any of our domestic ice cold long necks

\$2, NFL "Daq. Attack" — Frozen Margarita, Strawberry Daiquiri or Piña Colada

\$3, Armchair Quarter Backs "Bucket of Beer" — Six ice cold domestic pony beers

NOVEMBER

TOURNAMENTS

Mondays, 1 p.m.

Cash Bonus Freeroll Tournament

\$20 hours of play to qualify

Tuesdays, 11 a.m.

Limit Hold'em

Cost: \$15 buy-in, \$10 re-buy

Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

Half Hold'em Half Stud

Play begins at 6 p.m. in the poker room. Max win based on tournament entries. Cost: \$20 re-buy. Five hours play required to qualify.

Second Saturday each Month

Jackpot Poker Tournament

Play begins at 11 a.m. Max win \$15,000 guaranteed prize pool Cost: 50 hours of live play in previous month and two \$40 re-buys.

Million Dollar Keno every day

Minimum bet of \$2 on 12 or more numbers. Max win for one person, one million dollars. See Keno Counter for details.

Take A Night Out

BILOXI ENTERTAINMENT

Comedy Express every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m.
Nov. 28-29, Ronnie McDowell
Nov. 28-29, Isis

All shows are in the Eclipse Showroom and are free. Call 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 for information

Monday Night Football Pool

First 100 participants may choose a free square. Prizes are awarded every quarter for red and blue line winners. Starts at 6:15 p.m. each Monday night in the Eclipse Showroom. Food specials. (Plus don't miss the beer girls every Monday night during football season).

Monday Nights in Biloxi Just Keep Getting Better

See local favorites Dave Elliott and Brad Kessie of WLOX Television each Monday 7-8 p.m. host a radio talk show featuring a special guest each week in the Eclipse Showroom.

NFL Sunday Ticket

Nearly 200 regular season games during the 1997 professional football season with pre-game show highlights and interviews. Special Kick-off Menu in the Eclipse Showroom. Free musical entertainment after each game.

Casino Magic Biloxi's Kick-Off Menu — Sundays:

50 cents ponies
25 cents hot dogs
10 cents wings
10 cents oyster shooters
99 cents shrimp cocktails
50 cents nachos

Grand Casino

Entertainment

GULFPORT

America Live!

HALarious Show

Grand New "Las Vegas Style" Show

Comedy, variety, dancers and magic acts

America Live Showroom

High-energy, vivid and bright production embracing comedy, dancing, music and comedic magical illusions. Audience participation is an integral part of the show. The costumes and sets were specifically

designed for the America Live! production.

3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday

8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday

\$9.95 matinee, \$14.95 evening

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BUSINESS NEWS

THE SEA COAST ECHO - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1997-11

Retailers likely to have very green Christmas

By M. E. Williams

All the factors are in place to make Christmas 1997 a very, merry one for retailers, a University of Southern Mississippi retail expert says.

"Consumer confidence is up, unemployment is at a many-year low, the economy is strong — this ought to be a great year for retail spending at Christmas," said Dr. Tony Henthorne, a USM professor of marketing and finance who keeps a close eye on retail trends.

The fourth quarter each year is when most retailers pull in 50 percent or more of their annual profits. A poor Christmas season can make or break a retail business.

But this year, Henthorne said, even the weather and the calendar are cooperating to give retail sales an extra edge.

"Christmas is on Thursday this year and I think most retailers agree that the later in the week the holiday falls, the better it is for pre-Christmas sales," he said. "And with reports that El Nino is going to bring a cold, tough winter our way this year, sales on winter apparel, which have been soft in past years, should really rebound."

Henthorne said the Hattiesburg area in particular should

see a very brisk year. The "tremendous growth in the trade area" over the last three years has firmly established Hattiesburg as a retail drawing area, he said.

"I've been a little amazed at the growth and the ability of the area to support that growth," he said. "But it certainly doesn't show signs of letting up anytime soon and that's created a kind of synergistic energy that makes the market positive and keeps consumers spending."

What's hot this year? Henthorne said he hasn't seen any "official lists" but based on economic indicators, his may be a good year for big ticket items.

"When people have faith in the economy — and they certainly seem to at this point — they're more willing to take on longer-term debt and buy that television, VCR or satellite dish," he said.

"And, if the weather is really bad this year, there will be a tendency to buy things as gifts that I call cocooning items — things that contribute to a warm, home environment or make it more comfortable or desirable to stay at home."

"I saw recently where there was a rebound this year in board-game sales. I think that speaks directly to the cocooning theory."

AT&T offers tips to protect against fraud during holidays

Along with the arrival of the holiday season comes an increase in the number of scam artists whose rip-offs have ruined the holidays for many unsuspecting people.

To help consumers protect themselves against phone fraud and other deceptions that people are especially vulnerable to at this time of the year, AT&T has identified certain scams that are common during the holidays. These tips will help consumers protect themselves from becoming victims of fraud.

Consumer travel increases heavily during the holidays. Many people don't realize that this is a prime time for thieves to steal calling card numbers from those making phone calls from a pay phone. When calling from a public phone at the airport, train station or bus terminal:

- Protect your calling card number by blocking the telephone keypad with your body as you dial the number.

- Whenever one is available, use a card reader phone that automatically reads the billing information on your calling card, so you don't have to say the number aloud. If you must read your card number to an operator, speak softly or cup your hand around the mouthpiece.

- Find out if your calling card provider offers safeguards such as numbers that are easily memorized so that the card itself doesn't have to be taken out to be used.

- AT&T Calling Card customers can restrict their card's ability to dial international calls — the favorite use of stolen cards by calling-card thieves.

- Report a stolen calling card or suspicion of fraud to your

long-distance company immediately. The company will cancel the calling-card number and issue a new card to you. AT&T Calling Card customers should call 1-800-CALL-ATT.

Scam artists are especially active this time of year. And, while the general belief is that older people are the most frequent targets of scam artists, in actuality, people of all ages, income and education levels and lifestyles can be taken in. All consumers should be wary of a call from someone who:

- Guarantees a credit card with a high credit limit just in time for holiday shopping but wants an up-front payment.

- Claims to represent a charity you're not familiar with.

- Says you need to buy some-

thing or pay a fee to win a prize.

- Asks for your credit card, calling card, bank account or social security number.

- Uses a company name that is intended to sound like a government agency or a well-known company.

- Pressures you to act on the offer the same day.

- Acts as if he or she has done business with you before.

- Is unwilling to send you written information on the offer or give you references.

- Claims you've won a prize and you haven't entered a contest.

- The best defense against all kinds of fraud is an educated consumer. If people understand how scams work they're less likely to become a victim.

Casino World executive to speak at Diamondhead

Deborah A. Vitale, chairman of the board of directors for Casino World, Inc. is scheduled to be the guest speaker at Diamondhead Business & Professional Association general meeting Jan. 22 at Park Ten Lanes Bowling Alley at 8 a.m.

All businesses and residents interested in the development of Diamondhead are encouraged to attend. The 1998 annual membership dues are \$65.

The third annual Diamond-

head Merchants Fair will be Dec. 4 at the Resort Inn, 5-9 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the Diamondhead merchants and what is available in the community.

The DB&PA Christmas party will be at Robert's Seafood in Diamondhead Dec. 8, 6 p.m.-til. All present 1997 and potential 1998 members are invited.

Volunteers needed to assist in preparing tax returns

Local volunteers are needed for community-service programs sponsored by the IRS to provide free assistance during

the tax-filing season to those who need help with basic federal and state income tax forms.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE), which is co-sponsored by AARP, are programs designed to help taxpayers who are elderly or disabled, have lower incomes or are non-English speaking.

Volunteers have provided this free service for 28 years through VITA and other assistance programs supported by the IRS.

Typically, volunteers are members of civic or other organizations that adopt this as a community-service project. Many other volunteers are not affiliated with an organization, but participate in VITA or TCE to help out in their communities.

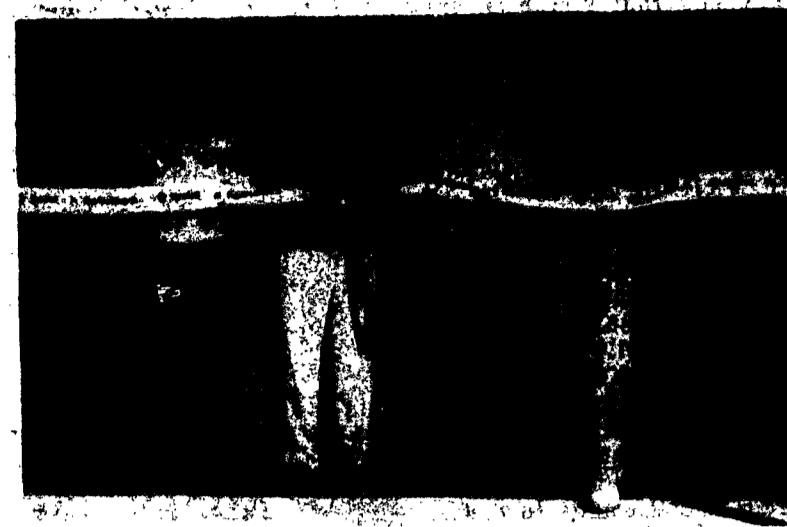
Groups of individuals interested in participating in the program can call 1-800-464-3167.

Volunteers of any age who are interested in assisting

free at 1-800-464-3167.

New hospital

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held last week for Columbia Garden Park Hospital's new, replacement facility in the Orange Grove area of Columbia. The new facility will include 120 beds and will cost \$11.3 million. A 10,000 square foot medical office building will be part of the new facility. The project is expected to be completed and will be occupied within 24-26 months.



Grand opening

The Sprint Store at RadioShack recently celebrated its grand opening. The store offers one-stop shopping for communications products and services. The new store is located inside RadioShack at Choctaw Plaza Shopping Center, Highway 90, Waveland. Participating in the ribbon cutting are Lohrinda Daniels, at left, Luca Francabandera, RadioShack owner Doyle Webb, Waveland mayor John Mason, store manager Darren Indovina and Hancock County Chamber of Commerce executive director Cindy Vernon. (Sea Coast Echo photo by Cecilia Howe)

Realtors open web site

Until recently, searching online for a real estate agent in Mississippi was difficult and time-consuming. Now, a new website operated by the Mississippi Association of Realtors, the Mississippi Living Network (<http://ms.living.net>), is on-line to provide a centralized re-

source for locating a Mississippi realtor.

The Mississippi Living Network offers a service to consumers that is not provided through any other medium: a searchable list of all 3,900 realtors across the state by firm, city and individual name. At the website, each realtor has a home page that he or she may update to provide the consumer with insight into that individual's specialty and specific expertise. Phone numbers, addresses and e-mail addresses (where available) are provided so the consumer easily may contact the desired realtor.

The most positive aspect for the consumer is the convenient "one-stop shopping" that the Mississippi Living Network offers. An individual who is planning to move from Hernando to the Gulf Coast can search one site and find the realtor to sell his or her home and a realtor to buy from as well — at one location, instead of spending endless hours of frustrating searching. The consumer can be confident in the fact that she'll be working with a Realtor — the trademarked name that is synonymous with professionalism in the real estate industry.

The Mississippi Living Network is also linked to other Living Network sites in several states, including Louisiana and Florida, as well as to REALTOR.COM, the web site of the National Association of Realtors, which houses over a million property listings across the United States.

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**What a mess**

Mrs. Jerry Bazor returned to her Jourdan Rivers Shores home last October to find raw sewage coming up from her ground level toilet, spilling onto her floors. Residents claim the treatment plant operated by Johnson Utilities is either not being maintained properly or is too small to handle the growing subdivision. (Photo made on Oct. 24 courtesy of Mrs. Jerry Bazor)

Waste

Continued from page 1

to stop them from dumping raw sewage into the river," said Bonin. "Problem is they do it only on weekends when the agencies that monitor them are closed and no one is available to see what I see. When I call on Monday, Johnson is in full compliance with the law and no problem is ever seen."

He said the county gave Johnson Utilities an easement to run its discharge pipe under the street before he settled his property "and, it discharges right at my bulkhead."

DEQ did come out on Oct. 24 when Mrs. Jerry Bazor complained that raw sewage was coming up from a toilet she installed at the ground level of her raised home. She lives behind the treatment plant.

"At first, I thought my (discharge) line was stopped up," she said. "There was an inch or more of (human waste) on my

floor and toilet paper everywhere."

She said she has lived off and on in the same house on Arapajo Place for the last 10 years. About a year ago before that, in November, Mrs. Bazor said she came home and found raw sewage coming out of an overflow pipe that comes out on the north end of her property line.

"It was the same thing, raw sewage and toilet paper everywhere in my yard," she said.

She said this time Johnson Utilities sent a field supervisor to "clean up and disinfect."

"He wanted me to install a pressure pump on my line, but I told him, it's not my problem if your pump's not working. It's your problem."

The Echo made several calls to Johnson Utilities office in Ocean Springs, but the calls went unanswered.

Input

Continued from page 1

with a checklist (see page 7) so residents may check off suggestions for sports and other activities, for both men and women. Additional space is also available so citizens can add activities not listed on the flier.

"We want input from the community so we can determine what direction to go in and set our priorities," Fillingame said. "If we have enough of interest for a sport or activity, then it would be a good working

project."

He said he has received repeated inquiries about beginning beach volleyball and men's softball. Fillingame said beach volleyball would be played near the city pier.

"Softball used to be real popular when it was played at McDonald Field," he added.

The fliers will be available at numerous spots throughout the city, including the Depot.

Juvenile Detention Administration Conference set

A three-day conference aimed at training line staff and leadership in juvenile detention agencies is set for Dec. 7-9 at the Gulf Park Conference Center in Long Beach.

"This conference is one that I and several others in the state feel is overdue," said Dr. Larry LeFlore, a criminal justice professor at USM who studies juvenile justice issues.

The number of juvenile detention facilities has nearly tripled over the past five years. Secondly, the persons working in juvenile detention in Mississippi have increased as well."

"Juvenile Detention Administration: A New Day" is intended to start an effective and affordable training program in Mississippi for juvenile detention workers. The program includes sessions for both administrative and line staff workers in juvenile detention facilities.

Teaching the sessions will be three experts in the field of juvenile detention: Carol Cramer, who is director of training for the National Juvenile Detention Association Center for Research and Professional Development in Lansing, Mich.

Dr. David Roush, who directs the center; and Wayne Liddell, director of the Berrien County, Mich. Juvenile Center.

LeFlore hopes the conference serves as the beginning of ongoing and expanding training for juvenile detention officers and administrators. He said the conference may also help develop a set of standards for operating juvenile detention centers.

"Juveniles or children who are locked up in detention centers have different needs than adults who may be detained," LeFlore said. "We need to help persons who work in these facilities recognize those unique needs of these kids."

The conference is being hosted by the Institute of Juvenile Justice Administration and Delinquency Prevention and the Gulf Park Conference Center. The conference begins Sunday, Dec. 7 at 2:30 p.m. and runs through 11 a.m. Tuesday.

Lodging is available at Gulf Park Conference Center, which is located on the USM Gulf Coast campus in Long Beach.

For information, contact Catherine Sliman at 865-4535.

P&H

Continued from page 1

The bond was paid off in 1989, and during a recent audit, a state auditor discovered \$133,000 that had been collected by the county since that time. None of that money had found its way into P&H coffers.

Commission attorney Robert Genin was vehement in his belief that the money belonged to the P&H. He said the original purpose of the levy was for industrial development and that the monies should continue to be used for that purpose.

Genin also lobbied for \$144,000 collected by the county through a state millage, but he previously expressed his doubts to Commissioners about being entitled to that money.

The AG's office denied the P&H on both counts. In a letter dated Nov. 7, Assistant Attorney General Mike Lanford said since the bond was paid off, it was his opinion "that the funds left over beyond the amount that was necessary to pay off the bonds may be considered surplus funds and transferred...to other funds of the county."

He added that state law allows for those funds "to be used for general purposes if the purpose for which the special fund was created has been fully carried out."

The supervisors have already dedicated much of the \$133,000 to construct a new library on Highway 603 in Kiln.

"I'm disappointed," Genin said. "That money can only be used for economic development under the statute as far as I'm concerned. I feel strongly about it."

"There's nothing we can do," he added.

He said he thought the AG's office would have at least stipulated the money be used for some type of industrial development. But the office ruled that the money could go for the library.

Board attorney Gerald Gex said he was pleased by the ruling, but offered no further comment.

Where It's At

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DOLLARS & SENSE

Dollars & Sense invites all of our customers to come spend a day in the Bay Saturday, December 6. Come help us celebrate the Christmas Season, it will be a day filled with holiday excitement.

Santa will arrive around 12 p.m. and will be available for photos.

Come early Browse & Shop till you drop.

Treasures galore are to be found in our unique gallery and shop. Dollars & Sense will offer discounts on merchandise. 15% storewide until 12/23. Look for our unadvertised special while shopping our two locations.

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Classified Ads Directory

30 Announcements

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- 85 Building Materials
- 86 Business Equipment
- 88 Tools, Machinery
- 90 Pets
- 91 Live Stock
- 93 Yard Sale
- 96 Wanted to Buy

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Insertion Day

Sunday

Thursday

Wednesday EXTRA

Friday NOON

Tuesday 5 p.m.

Tuesday 11 a.m.

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30 Lost & Found

LOST: 1 BLACK CAT W/PINK COLLAR. Lost in vicinity of Main St., BSL. Reward for return. 467-9528.

36 Special Notices

THANKSGIVING
Don't slave over stove or grill on Thanksgiving. Just come to Jus Rubies for pig roast and gobble fixings. Happy hour, 5-7, M-F.

46 Home Improvement

VINYL SIDING, ROOFING, REPLACE-
MENT windows. Licensed & bonded. Call
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FAUCETTA HOME IMPROVEMENTS:
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ATTENTION PARENTS: Do you work the
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83 Items For Sale

FOR SALE: IBM PS/1 486 COMPUTER, monitor and printer, \$500. Easy Glider exercise machine, like new, \$100. 467-3851.

FOR SALE: MILL FINISHED aluminum single pane windows, 6-36" x 36", \$5.00 ea., and 1-36" x 36" twin (36" x 72"), \$10.00. Call 467-9305/after 6pm.

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PIONEX COMPUTER 486SX 25 MHZ, super VGA monitor; Panasonic IX-P1123 24 pin printer. All manuals used very little, \$500/lm. 255-4621.

84 Furniture

FANTASTIC FURNITURE SALE: Pettifit's Pre-Christmas Inventory reduction sale. All furniture 20% to 50% off. All reasonable offers accepted! From Nov. 28th through Saturday Dec. 6, 1997. We'll be closed Thanksgiving day, but open the usual 7 days a week now through Christmas. 9-5. Dealers and credit cards welcome. Pettifit's Warehouse of Good Furniture and Antiques', 134 Sycamore St. 467-8357.

HOTEL DRESSERS, MIRRORS, nightstands, lamps, spreads, coffee tables, end tables, TVs. 467-8727

MATTRESS SETS: TWIN, FULL, queen & king. Starting at \$50. 467-9727

85 Building Materials

CERAMIC TILE: Interceramic, Summitville, DAL, KPT, Lafin, 500,000 sq.ft. in stock. Attention: Builders, Flormen, special prices, 88¢ sq.ft. to \$1.80 sq.ft. 1-800-233-6702. FLOOR STORE, Slidell, 1725 Gauss Blvd. off I-10, next to Smith & Jones, Builders.

LAST CHANCE! HUGE SAVINGS ON 3 arch type steel buildings. Pre-packaged for state fairs. Never assembled. Immediate shipping. Free freight. 20x20, 25x30. Call immediately! 1-800-527-4044.

METAL ROOFING/SIDING - 8 colors galv. to 24 ft. length: 36" wide-26 ga. galv. 99¢ ft. Colors, \$1.19 ft. V-crimp & corrug. 64¢ ft. Ridge cap, rake & corner, purlins \$1.00 ft. Roofing/Siding from \$14.90 sq. ft. Warehouse Sales. Slidell, LA Ext 263 I-10. 800-842-6646.

90 Pets

FULL BLOODED TABBY PERSIAN, registered with papers, neutered, declawed. Very gentle and lovable. Good with children. \$200. 466-4877.

93 Yard Sale

CARPORT SALE: 118 AIKEN RD., Waveland. Saturday Nov. 29th. 9a.m.-3p.m. Bedspreads king/single, Ladies pants, skirts, tops, blazers, sweaters. Many misc. items. Wrought iron patio table, 6 chairs \$70; Double door cedar robe \$70; Small porcelain kitchen cabinet \$25; Loveseat \$25; Short cocktail dresses \$10 each. No checks please.

DEADLINES FOR YARD, GARAGE sales advertisements appearing in SUNDAY'S Editions of THE SEA COAST ECHO is NOON on Friday's.

EVERYDAY IS SALE DAY AT YOUR Bay St. Louis Goodwill Store, Bay Mall Shopping Center, Dunbar & Highway 90, Mon. thru Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 467-7277.

GARAGE SALE: SATURDAY, NOV. 29th. 8a.m.-till. 308 A & B Ulman Ave., B.S.L. Clothes, lamp, some household items, much more.

GARAGE SALE: 6215 South Railroad Ave., Clemont Harbor. All day Friday & ½ day Saturday.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THRIFT STORE, 307-D Coleman Ave., Waveland, 10-3, Tues.-Thurs.-Fri., 10-12 Saturday. Baby, mens, womens clothes, housewares, & bric-a-brac.

YARD SALE: DAY HOME, 303 Union St., 8am-1pm, each Saturday. Every week new & old items.

YARD SALE: SATURDAY 11/29, 7:00-12:00, between Hancock Bank & Hancock Insurance on Main St.

YARD SALE: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, Nov. 28th & 29th. 8a.m.-2p.m. 701 Carroll Ave., Bay St. Louis (next to high school).

YARD SALE: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 7:30-11:30, 242 Carroll Court, BSL. (Next to St. Charles St.). Washer, dryer, tv, lots of misc..

96 Wanted To Buy

96 Wanted To Buy

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, TOOLS, dolls, furniture. One piece or house full. Call 467-2628 days.

DON'T FEEL LIKE HAVING a yard sale? Call us. Will buy one piece or house full. Furniture, antiques, tools, collectibles, etc. Piece or house full. No answer leave message. 467-4857.

QUICK CASH FOR ALMOST ANYTHING before yard sale hassles, moving or cleaning out. We buy households, furniture, antiques, tools, toys, bric-a-brac, etc. Piece or house full. No answer leave message. 467-4857.

WANTED TO PURCHASE: FIXER-UPPER, or vacant lot near beach in BSL or Waveland. Call Ed, 463-9491/leave message.

126 Campers/Motorhomes

FOR RENT: 24FT. TRAVEL TRAILER, central air & heat, all utilities included & cable. 467-2408.

128 Boats & Motors

2-1994 SEA DOO'S: PERFECT condition, 3 seater GTX & 2 seater XP with trailer and accessories. Sacrifice, \$5,500. 255-5976.

26 FT. PEARSON O.D., SLOOP, 9.9 HP Johnson, new roller furling, well maintained. \$7,900 obo. 467-3837.

133 Auto Parts/Service

NISSAN MOTOR, 4 CYL. w/carburetor came out a 1988 4x4, 48,000 miles. Asking \$500. (601)795-6254.

136 Automobiles

92 FORD FORD PROBE, AUTO, AIR, looks/runs great, \$3,997. Financing available. Danny Ferrell, 504-641-9595.

1989 NISSAN SENTRA, GOOD condition, new tires, \$1,600. (601)795-6254.

94 MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE, dark green, beige leather, loaded. 0 down, financing available. See Danny Ferrell. 504-641-9595.

'91 MUSTANG CONV., POWER, AIR, auto, \$6,000. 467-1644 M-F, 9am-4pm, 452-3135 after 6pm.

94 VW JETTA, SUNROOF, AUTO, low miles, \$8,997. 100% financing available. Danny Ferrell, 504-641-9595.

1984 CIVIC STATION WAGON. Runs & looks perfect. \$1,050 or best offer. 467-4688.

95 FORD ESCORT, 4-DR., AUTO, air, only 17,000 miles, \$6,990, \$189 per mo. Danny Farrell, Lakeshore Chrysler. 504-641-9595.

B & M AUTO SALES

\$0 DOWN SPECIAL

'95 Isuzu PU \$174.69

'93 Geo Prizm \$163.33

'94 Nissan Sentra \$177.75

'95 Ford Ranger \$197.63

'94 Ford Escort \$169.69

BANKRUPT, BAD CREDIT

All you need is a good job

ALL APPLICATIONS APPROVED

1-800-214-5193

95 FORD F150 PICKUP, RED, nice, \$9,497. 0 down/financing available. See Danny Ferrell. 504-641-9595.

SEIZED CARS from \$175. Porsches, Cadillacs, Chevys, BMW's, Corvettes. Also Jeeps, 4WD's. You area. Toll free 1-800-218-9000 Ext. A-3930 for current listings.

94 TOYOTA 4x4 PICKUP, BLACK, big wheels & tires, low price, \$9,997. 0 down/financing available. Danny Ferrell, 504-641-9595.

AUTO INSURANCE WITH MONTHLY PAYMENTS as low as \$24. Call Paul Smith Insurance Agency, 467-4607 or 467-1152.

95 JEEP WRANGLER, ALUM. WHEELS, low miles, new car trade, \$10,997. Danny Ferrell, 504-641-9595.

92 NISSAN 240ZX, DARK GREEN, new car trade, \$6,890. Financing available. Danny Ferrell, 504-641-9595.

FOR SALE: 1987 MUSTANG LX, new tires and rims, ac & heat, \$2,500. 255-9926.

94 CHEVY S10 PICKUP LS package, new car trade, \$6,697. 0 down/financing available. See Danny Ferrell. 504-641-9595.

1980 FIAT SPIDER 2000, \$750 or best offer. 467-2985.

1986 FORD BRONCO 4X4: RUNS, good condition, needs rear window. As is \$1,500. 255-1360.

87 NISSAN KING CAB PICK-UP: new mag rims, tires & stereo, \$2,500. 467-9316.

1987 FORD F150: 4X4, 1/2 ton, 5.0L, 4WD, 4 door, 140,000 miles, \$3,500. 467-9316.

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YOUTH

THE SEA COAST ECHO—THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1997-17

Recipes

Continued from page 6

1st you buy turkey. 2st season it. 3rd you put it in the oven for 25-30 minutes on 250°. 4st you take it out of the oven. 5th Slice turkey and eat it. 6th Any leftovers you wrap up and save it.

by: Kayla Polkey

1. Buy a turkey. 2. Take it out of the bag. 3. Clean it. 4. Put it in a pan. 5. Put it in the oven on 340° degrees for 30 minutes. 6. Take it out and add your decorations. 7. Put juice in it so it will taste better. 8. Put it back in for about 1 hours. 10. Take it out and Enjoy Your Dinner!

Justin Bishop

Buy the turkey
Skin the turkey
Wash the turkey
Stuff the turkey
Put the turkey in the oven
2.50° for a hour
Get the turkey out
Get the turkey to cool off
Eat the turkey

Rebecca Mattox

Buy a turkey
Wash it off
salt and pepper
put it in a big pot
put souce on it
put it in the oven
for 10 minutes
at 70 degrees
take it out
then eat it

By: Kristina Wheat
Headstart

Bay Catholic News

We had a spooky but great Halloween at Bay Catholic. We've had several contests that are centered around Halloween that transformed the school. Some of the contests were the door decorating contest and the pumpkin contest.

The top winner were: third place, "Follow us to the Boo to Do" by EEC and "Batty" by EC; second place, "Not witches' brew, Mrs. Gleber's crew" by Mrs. Gleber's class; and first place, "Suffern' for eternity," by Mrs. Suffern's fourth grade.

We had 63 kids enter the pumpkin contest. Some of the most memorable pumpkins were the M&M family, the haunted mansion and the haunted snowman. All the pumpkins looked great. Congratulations to all those who entered.

The three-year-olds talked and did a lot on Halloween. Some of the projects included styrofoam spiders, paper plate jack-o-lanterns and footprint ghosts. They also read several stories and explained the idea of a haunted house.

Mrs. Wallace, the art teacher, had a big part in our Halloween being such a success. She quoted, "The students projects just added to the great decorations already displayed in our school for the 31st."

And of course, the 31st was the Boo-to-Do. The haunted house was made by the sixth grade with lots of help from their parents. It was a big success. Some of the other popular things were games that in-

cluded the pencil pull, the cake walk, ghost pops and the pumpkin toss. It was a great Halloween, and everyone had lots of fun.

And speaking of Halloween, what's Halloween without a good pumpkin? The three- and four-year-olds should know. They went to the Honey B Farms' pumpkin patch located on John Clark Road in Gulfport. They fed chickens, turkeys, emus, pigs and goats. After they fed the animals they took home their own special little pumpkin.

Mrs. Klein's kindergarten went to the Global Wildlife Center in Folsom. They rode covered wagons through the simulated wilderness. They fed camels, buffalo, giraffes, zebras and other wild animals using cups of corn.

Mrs. Connie's kindergarten went to a St. Stanislaus pep rally. They painted their faces and had a wonderful time.

The first grade classes went to Winn-Dixie and had a behind-the-scenes look at a grocery store. When asked what they learned, the students shouted, "We went to the meat department. We saw food groups and learned what we need more and less of. We went in the back and learned how they get the food. We learned that there is a white pumpkin called Baby Boo. We learned what was good for us."

Getting back to the things that are happening in the school, in Ms. Tusa's class they studied DNA. Ms. Tusa thought

they should know this because having an understanding of DNA genes and chromosomes helps to understand why people are different.

For instance, some kids in our school have trouble in reading. So we offer a program called Project Read. The children are placed in small groups for one-on-one instruction in reading and phonics skills. They use sand trays, finger spelling and sky writing to teach and emphasize learning. Children enjoy going, and reading is P-U-N.

Another program we have is Super Kids Club that the fifth grade teacher created to help her students with discipline. The teacher punches a hole in a card each time they have one week without checks by their names. When their card is filled they receive great treats like games, books or Dairy Queen certificates. Mrs. Luttrell said, "I believe this encourages students to be the best they can be."

Mrs. Melanie has a program to help the four-year-olds build self-esteem. It is called VIP. The VIP is line leader, classroom helper, wears a badge and tells the class about favorite things.

October was a busy month at BCE, but also fun.

Leanne LaFrance
Ashley Mayley
and Brittany Peters,
6th graders at BCE

Bayou Jewelers
& Watch Repair

OF HANCOCK COUNTY
PRED. G. MELVIN
WITNESS
LAWRENCE MELVIN, COUNSELOR AT
LAW, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC., HANCOCK
COUNTY, MS. 38501, AND ROBERT KING, JR.,
HANCOCK COUNTY, MS. 38501, HAVE FILED
A COMPLAINT FOR PREDOMINANTLY
DISPERSAL OF DEFAMATION AND FOR
THE PREDOMINANTLY DEFAMATION OF
THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC., HANCOCK
COUNTY, MS. 38501, AND ROBERT KING, JR.,
HANCOCK COUNTY, MS. 38501, AGAINST
PRED. G. MELVIN, COUNSELOR AT
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MELVIN, COUNSELOR AT LAW, CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, INC., HANCOCK COUNTY, MS. 38501,
AND ROBERT KING, JR., HANCOCK COUNTY, MS.
38501, FOR THE PREDOMINANTLY DEFAMATION
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COMMERCE, INC., HANCOCK COUNTY, MS. 38501,
AND ROBERT KING, JR., HANCOCK COUNTY, MS.<br

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Red Ribbon Christmas holiday event schedule

SATURDAY, NOV. 29
Holiday Open House
Ellen Kane Gifts, 398 Hwy.
90, Bay St. Louis. Open 10
a.m.-5:30 p.m. Enjoy the holi-
day tastings and special dis-
counts throughout the day.

SUNDAY, NOV. 30
**Special Holiday Shopping
Hours**

Bookends Bookstore, 111
Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis, noon-4
p.m. Bookends will be open ev-
ery Sunday through December
from noon-4 p.m. for your shop-
ping convenience.

TUESDAY, DEC. 2
**Hancock County Red Rib-
bon Christmas Parade**
Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis, 6
p.m. Enjoy the spirit of the holi-
day season.

The parade will begin at
Hwy. 90 at Second Street and
continues down Hwy. 90 to

Drinkwater Blvd. where it will
disband.

Some holiday festivities will
be held at the Hancock County
Walking Track immediately fol-
lowing the parade. Refresh-
ments will be available for
purchase — proceeds to benefit
Hope Haven.

Parade Refreshments

Hope Haven — Refresh-
ments and baked goods will be
sold at the Walking track on
Hwy. 90 during the Christmas
parade. Proceeds will benefit
Hope Haven.

THURSDAY, DEC. 4
**Hancock Chamber Busi-
ness After Hours**

Adams Loraine Flower Shop,
317 Ulman Avenue, Bay St.
Louis, 5-7 p.m. Ring in the holi-
day with the Chamber' Busi-
ness After Hours. Enjoy deli-
cious complimentary hors
d'oeuvres and cocktails and re-
gister for door prizes to be given
away as well. Be sure to bring
plenty of business cards to ex-
change with new business
prospects.

**Diamondhead Business &
Professional Association's
Merchants Fair**

Diamondhead Resort, 5-9
p.m. Over 50 businesses will be
displaying their holiday wares,
with many exciting door prizes
to be given away. Enjoy the
wonderful fashion shows, food,
entertainment and fun with a
visit from Santa.

FRIDAY, DEC. 5
Holiday Open Houses:
The Kid Company

113 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis,
10 a.m.-7 p.m. come and see all
the wonderful clothing, jewelry
and educational toys for girls
and boys and enjoy extended
shopping hours for your holiday
shopping convenience.

Bookends Bookstore
111 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis,
10 a.m.-7 p.m. Special holiday
open house — stop in and see
the new arrivals for your holi-
day gift list.

Goldie Locks, the Trial
Coast Episcopal Middle
School presents Goldie Locks,
the Trial. "You've read the book,
you've seen the movie, now see
the trial" Friday, Dec. 5 in the
courtroom of the Hancock
County Courthouse, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$7.50; children \$5.

SATURDAY, DEC. 6
Holiday Open Houses
The Kid Company
Hwy. 90, 113 Hwy. 90, Bay
St. Louis, near the Bay Bridge.
Open every Sunday until
Christmas 1-4 p.m. for your holi-
day shopping convenience.

Christmas Brunch
Diamondhead Community
Church, 11:30 a.m. at the Dia-
mondhead Resort Inn. Come
enjoy the start of the holiday
season with fellow members
and friends.

Hancock County Li-

brary's Holiday Tree Gala
312 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis,
1-5 p.m. Enjoy the sights as
area businesses and organiza-
tions demonstrate their tree-
decorating skills.

Springs — Dark Canyon) from
2-3 p.m.

Old Town Christmas

Old Town Bay St. Louis Mer-
chants Association invites you
to come spend the day in the
Bay, Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m.-5
p.m. come help celebrate the
Christmas Season — it will be a
day filled with holiday
excitement.

The Old Town shops will be
open early to display their unique
gifts, art, antiques and holi-
day wares. There will be special
vendor booths along Main
St. and Beach Blvd. featuring
art, crafts, gifts, leather crafts,
food, refreshments and
entertainment.

The Southern Who Car Club
will be displaying their classic
cars. Santa will be arriving ar-
ound noon and will be available
for photos, special guests and
events. Come early. Browse and
shop. Treasures galore to be
found in the unique galleries
and shops with discounts on
merchandise.

Goldie Locks, the Trial
Coast Episcopal Middle
School presents Goldie Locks,
the Trial. "You've read the book,
you've seen the movie, now see
the trial" Saturday, Dec. 6 in the
courtroom of the Hancock
County Courthouse, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$7.50; children \$5.

Nutcracker Ballet
Bay High School Auditorium,
Blue Meadow Road, Bay St.
Louis at 7:30 p.m. The Coast
Youth Ballet Ensemble will pre-
sent this Christmas classic to
the Bay-Waveland area. The
production will include guest
artists from The Joffrey Ballet
Center of New York City.

This traditional Christmas
production will be a delight for
the entire family.

For ticket information, con-
tact the Ballet Place at
466-2625. Co-sponsored by the
Bay High Fine Arts
Association.

SUNDAY, DEC. 7
**Special Holiday
Shopping Hours**

The Kid Company
Hwy. 90, 113 Hwy. 90, Bay
St. Louis, near the Bay Bridge.
Open every Sunday until
Christmas 1-4 p.m. for your holi-
day shopping convenience.

Christmas Brunch
Diamondhead Community
Church, 11:30 a.m. at the Dia-
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enjoy the start of the holiday
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and friends.

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312 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis,
1-5 p.m. Enjoy the sights as
area businesses and organiza-
tions demonstrate their tree-
decorating skills.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Matinee Performance of The Nutcracker Ballet

Bay High School Auditorium, Blue Meadow Road, Bay St. Louis, 2 p.m. If you missed the Saturday performance, you can still enjoy the wonderful sights and sounds of this delightful holiday tradition.

For ticket information, contact the Ballet Place at 466-2625.

North Hancock County Business Association's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

Hwy. 603 and Kiln-DeLisle Road, 6 p.m. Come and enjoy the holiday music, refreshments and a visit by Santa.

Waveland Festival of Lights

City of Waveland, Coleman Avenue, 6-8 p.m. Coleman Avenue will be the location for holiday activities beginning with a Christmas Lighting at 6 p.m. and the arrival of Santa Claus.

There will be entertainment throughout the evening in front of City Hall featuring local choral groups.

The merchants along Coleman will host open houses and serve holiday refreshments and goodies.

Two trolleys will add to the fun and excitement. Both trolleys, sponsored by Hancock and Whitney banks, will be taking passengers to view the beautifully decorated homes on Christmas Card Lane and Christmas Door Lane. The trolleys will both depart from the parking lot on Beach Blvd. at Coleman Ave.

The festivities will culminate with the lighting of the Christmas Bonfire by Santa Claus at Beach Blvd. and Coleman Ave. (Coleman will be closed to vehicular traffic beginning at 5 p.m.)

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to enjoy the spirit of the season Waveland style.

Christmas Card Lane

Mollere Drive, Waveland, 7-9 p.m. The residents of Mollere Drive kick off the season in style with a visit from Santa. The Christmas cards will be illuminated each evening until Christmas for the community's enjoyment.

Diamondhead Performing Arts Christmas Show

Diamondhead Academy auditorium, 7 p.m. Don't miss this special holiday performance featuring guest artists Neil and Kitty Stallings of New Orleans.

FRIDAY, DEC. 12
Holiday Open House
Hancock Medical Center. Meet Santa and enjoy holiday refreshments as the Hancock Medical Center Auxiliary hosts an open house in the front lobby and gift shop.

Hancock Chamber Annual Banquet

Our Lady of the Gulf Community Center, 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner. For ticket information, call the Chamber Office at 467-9048. Guest speaker is Rear Admiral Paul G. Gaffney III, Chief of Naval Research. Reservations are required.

SATURDAY, DEC. 13
Holiday Open Houses
Hancock County Welcome Center

I-10 at Hwy. 607/90, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. come join the festivities at the Hancock County Welcome Center.

Enjoy the beautiful decorations and delightful entertainment, while the Welcome Center staff shows their visitors what the holiday season is all about in Hancock County.

Chessy's
110 South Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis. Special holiday shopping hours 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Stop in and see the new arrivals for your holiday gift list — humidores, boxes and bows.

Guest artists to be featured 5-8 p.m.: John Schackai, Chris Bellone, Elton McIver, Tom Dunne, Jim Bonner with special Christmas Santas by Janet Reeves.

Don't miss this wonderful artist showing just in time for your holiday shopping enjoyment.

SUNDAY, DEC. 14
Christmas Cantata

Diamondhead Community Church, 5301 Diamondhead Circle, 10 a.m. Enjoy this special performance of the beautiful Christmas Cantata by the church's choir led by Nan Glazier with organist Nancy Hunt.

Holiday Open House
Bookends Bookstore, 111 Hwy. 90, Bay St. Louis, noon-4 p.m. Autographing by noted Mississippi author and photographer Stephen Kirkpatrick, signing his new book *To Catch The Wind*.

Tour of Homes
North Hancock County Business & Professional Organization, 1-5 p.m., Enjoy the beautiful holiday decorations in area homes showcased for the season. Brochures available at businesses in the Kiln area or call Billie Lyons at 255-1188 or 1527.

Hanging of the Greens Concert

Main Street United Methodist Church, 162 Main Street, Old Town Bay St. Louis, 6 p.m. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Christmas season featuring guest artist Jay Heitzmann.

Diamondhead Parade of Lights

Diamondhead Yacht Club, dusk. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will arrive by boat and parade through the Yacht Club Circle area for viewers' enjoyment.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17

Holiday Open House
Lily of the Valley
113 N. Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis. Come by and share the holiday spirit and enjoy some healthy refreshments during the open house.

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Service
Diamondhead Community Church, 5301 Diamondhead Circle, 6 p.m.

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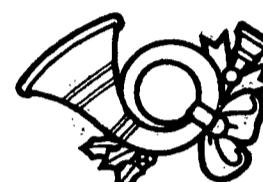
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Bay St. Louis • Corner
of Beach & Main

Hancock County Red Ribbon Christmas parade

Ronnie Bueche, Mrs. Mississippi 1997 and first alternate to Mrs. America, will serve as grand marshal for the Tuesday, Dec. 2 Hancock County Red Ribbon Christmas parade and master of ceremonies for the holiday festivities after the parade.

Bueche, a native of Denham Springs, La., is a recovery room nurse at Hancock Medical Center, married five years to Mark Bueche, originally of Baton Rouge. The Bueches have lived in Mississippi for four years, two of which have been in Waveland.

Bueche has been involved in dance activities since the age of 4, and served as choreographer of the Denham Springs High School Jackettes, on the LSU Golden Girl Dance Team '86-'89, and was selected as a superstar dancer, performing in London and in Ireland's St. Patrick's Day parade.

Prior to graduating cum laude from LSU with a bachelor's degree in nursing in '92, she was an aerobics instructor while attending school.

She has served as spokesmodel for Panama Jack and Budweiser, as well as partici-

pating in a number of motivational speaking engagements throughout the area.

Holiday festivities are scheduled at the Walking Track immediately following the parade. Activities include performances by the Bay High School Chorus under the direction of Elizabeth Holiman and the OLA Choir under the direction of Joy Mehrten.

Refreshments will be available for purchase with the proceeds going to Hope Haven.

More than 20 units have already registered for the parade.

Anyone interested in participating must register with the Chamber no later than Friday, Nov. 28 at noon. Participants must also check in before lining up for the parade to get their

position.

The registration table will be located at the corner of Hwy. 90 and North Beach Blvd. beginning at 4 p.m. Lineup will begin at 5 p.m., and the parade will roll at 6 p.m.

The parade will go down Hwy. 90 to Drinkwater Blvd. where it will disband.

There will be no parking along Hwy. 90 (sides or neutral ground). Individuals wanting to watch the parade may park on the shoulders of the frontage road (leaving the road clear for traffic).

For information on participation in the parade, contact the Chamber at 467-9048 by Friday, Nov. 28.

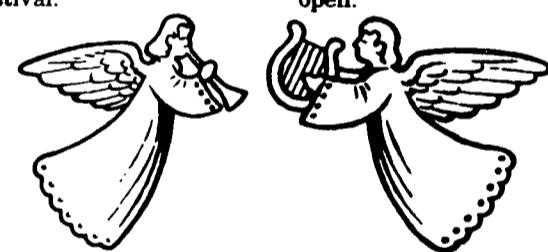
Street closings for Bay Christmas Festival

Main Street — 100 block closed at Beach Blvd. and Second Street 200 block will be closed at Second Street and Toulme Street.

Court Street — closed at Beach Blvd.

Gex and Cue Streets — closed at Court Street.

Second Street will remain open.



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WCA to parade prior to festival

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS

The Waveland Civic Association will sponsor a parade in Waveland prior to the Waveland Festival of Lights Sunday, Dec. 7, said Jay Fountain, association president.

The parade will begin to form at 3:30 p.m. on Central Avenue next to the ball park near Waveland Avenue. The 4:30 p.m. parade will travel from Central to Lafitte Avenue, Lafitte to Beach Boulevard, Beach to Coleman Avenue, Coleman to Central, and will disband at Coleman and Central.

The Civic Association will include about six of its floats in the parade, and requests are being made for other organizations and groups to join the Christmas parade, Fountain said.

"We have intentions of riding

Santa on one of our floats and leave him off at the Waveland City Hall in time for the *Festival of Lights* festivities to begin," Fountain said.

Fountain added, "There will be plenty of candy, trinkets and throws for everyone."

During the *Festival of Lights* Coleman Avenue merchants remain open late and offer hospitality to visitors.

The *Festival of Lights* is tied into the opening of the Christmas Card and Door Lane event in Waveland.

The Waveland Civic Association annually sponsors the St. Patrick's Day parade in Waveland.

For further information on a parade entry, contact Fountain at 467-2198, or Shorty Necaise, 467-7717.

Carey holiday event

William Carey College will celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with a Community Christmas Celebration Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Smith Auditorium of the Thomas Fine Arts Center on the Hattiesburg campus.

The celebration will feature entertainment for the entire family, including Leo Day's Faculty Quartet, the Cuellar and Dubose piano duo, Garlinda's Dance Works, Hattiesburg Children's Chorus and choral and instrumental ensembles from the Winters School of Music.

The annual campus Christ-

mas lighting ceremony is planned for 5:30 p.m. in front of Lawrence Hall. A soup and sandwich dinner will be available in Wilkes Dining Hall followed by the Christmas Celebration in Thomas Fine Arts.

The public is invited to attend the lighting ceremony, dinner and celebration. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Dinner is \$3.89 for adults, \$2.50 for children 10 and under, and free for children under 3.

For information, contact the music department at 601-582-6175.



CHRISTMAS IN THE PASS XIII
 Friday * December 5 * 4 p.m. until 9 p.m.
IN HISTORIC PASS CHRISTIAN SNOWLAND IN THE PARK
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CAROLERS & MUSIC
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Singing Christmas tree available at First Baptist

First Baptist Church of Biloxi is in the final stages of preparation for Singing Christmas Tree 1997, to be presented Friday through Sunday, Dec. 12-14 in the main worship center. Friday and Saturday's performances start at 7 p.m., Sunday's at 3 p.m.

Tickets are available now and are free by addressing an envelope marked "Tickets" to F.B.C. at P.O. Box 145, Biloxi

39533, enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope and giving the number of tickets desired for specific performances.

Leon Bedsole, minister of music, said about 75 singers and musicians, including children to senior adults, will participate this year.

"Singing Christmas Tree 1997 is a beautiful, exciting musical celebration of God's gift

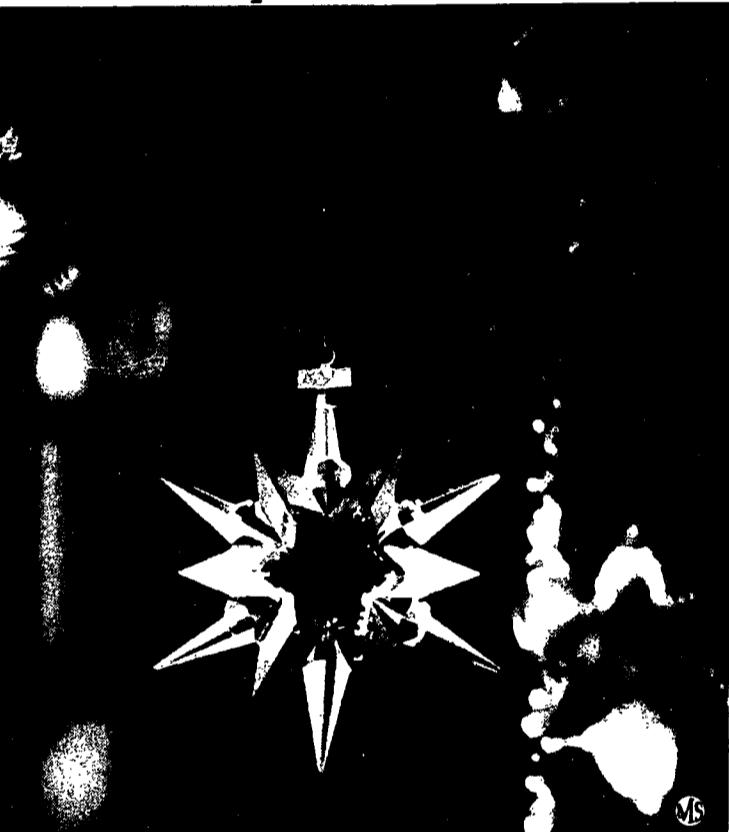
to mankind, his son, Jesus Christ," said Bedsole.

He added that those who arrive at the church about 30 minutes early will be treated to an F.B.C. handbell group "Praise Bells," then vocal selections by a men's ensemble, a women's ensemble, a mixed ensemble, and a children's choir.

The Singing Christmas Tree program features a massive "tree structure" reaching almost to the ceiling of the two-story high sanctuary, covered with greenery and decorations along with beautiful lighting, all carrying out a "starlight" motif, and full of singers.

Each Singing Christmas Tree is different in musical selections and decorative setting. Bedsole said the program is designed to portray the Christmas season in a spiritually meaningful manner, adding, "So many people over the several years we've done the tree have said: This really was the start of my Christmas season."

Add Sparkle to the Season



As the holidays approach, the search begins for gifts to make the recipient's eyes sparkle. The 1997 Swarovski Star, the latest annual introduction in a series of collectible crystal ornaments, puts the sparkle in gift-giving. Each year, the design reflects a star or a snowflake. For 1997, the design is a dramatic 12-point star with beautiful light-catching facets, hand cut by master craftsmen. The ornament is tied by a royal-blue ribbon and features a "1997" date tag. It is the perfect way to add an elegant touch to the season's celebrations.

Christmas Tree Festival

The Festival of Christmas Trees will continue at Edgewater Mall, Biloxi Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 28-30; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 1-3. Doors open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

There will be a Christmas tree auction Thursday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., open to the public.

All proceeds benefit the Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

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11/97

Gulf Islands open house set for Thanksgiving weekend

Take a break from the holidays this Thanksgiving weekend at Gulf Islands National Seashore. Free family fun and discovery awaits everyone at the Gulf Islands Holiday Open House and Wilderness Weekend.

Five special programs are scheduled over Saturday and Sunday at Davis Bayou's Visitor Center. Your family can hear about ranger family life on isolated Horn Island, enjoy do-it-yourself-art-for-kids projects or just come along for a guided stroll around the edges of Davis Bayou.

A touch of history is also planned with a comfortable "armchair tour" of Fort Massachusetts. The open house kicks off Saturday, Nov. 29 at 10:30 a.m. and wraps up on Sunday, Nov. 30. Admission is free, and all programs are about one hour long. Scheduled activities for Saturday include:

Armchair Tour of Fort Massachusetts

If you've never seen or heard the story of the old fort, here's your chance to explore Ship Island's historic fortress through pictures, story telling and easy-chair comfort in the Visitor Center auditorium. Meet with Biloxi native and park ranger Jack Madison at 10:30 a.m., Nov. 29 at the Davis Bayou Visitor Center.

Nature's Edibles

At 11:30 a.m., also Saturday,

Nov. 29, enjoy a ranger walk that offers more than just food for thought. Rangers and park volunteers have scouted out a special trail from the Visitor Center to the water's edge.

In this 30- to 40-minute walk, Nature's Edibles will show which plants and fruits growing in the marsh are edible and which are not.

Saturday Art for Kids

Back at the Visitor Center, parents can sit back and relax for a few minutes while their children enjoy making their own coast critters. All materials are provided and admission is free. Art for Kids/Create Your own Bayou Creatures starts at 1 p.m. in the Visitor Center and lasts one hour.

Marsh Walk

Uncover the creatures, critters, plants and legends hiding in a Gulf Coast salt marsh during this rare Saturday afternoon Ranger-led walk at Davis Bayou. We may even explore a bayou boathouse with its cast nets, shrimp nets and crab traps. Marsh Walk is the last program for Saturday's open house and begins in the Visitor Center at 2 p.m.

Wilderness Weekend concludes Sunday, Nov. 30 with special guest Janet Wilson as she describes *Living Eight Years on Horn Island*.

Hear about life at the Horn Island Ranger Station and what it was like to raise two

boys while surrounded by eagles, red wolves, alligators and the Gulf of Mexico. Eight years on Horn Island starts at 2 p.m. in the Visitor Center auditorium at Davis Bayou.

Visitor Center hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily. The William M. Colmer Visitor Center and Davis Bayou are located off Hwy. 90 East in Ocean Springs.

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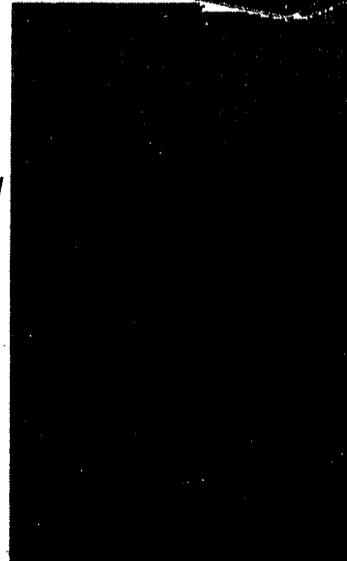
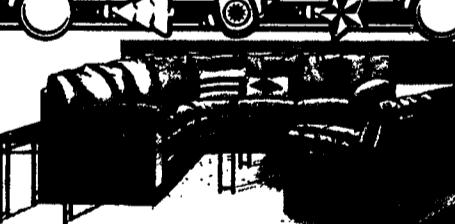
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Festive fruits for no-bake holiday desserts

If holiday baking has gotten to be more work and calories than you really want, this year why not serve easy, no-bake desserts that feature plenty of delicious, low-calorie fruit. Fruit desserts can be a light finish to a heavy holiday meal, and they are also an important part of a healthy diet.

The vitamins, fiber and other substances in fruits can protect your health and lower risk of cancer, according to studies funded by the American Institute for Cancer Research. And fruits can be a colorful way to make any holiday table dazzling.

Some delicious low-fat possibilities include: mixed fruit,

such as fresh or frozen berries with melon or citrus and garnished with mint leaves or topped with a dash of your favorite liqueur (red strawberries or raspberries mixed with green slices of kiwi fruit or honeydew melon, for example, can bring out the colors of the season).

Other lustrous fruits include dark red cherries, bright slices of orange, and fresh strawberries, which can be served with a chocolate dipping sauce made with cocoa powder for fewer calories (see recipe below) or fat-free whipped topping.

Fruits like grapes and slices of plums, pears and star-fruit can sparkle when they are "glaceed" by just rinsing with water and rolling lightly in finely granulated sugar, then arranged on a platter.

Fresh or thawed frozen fruits can be pureed in a blender, with or without sugar, and used as delicious sauces over slices of low-fat angel food cake bought from your local bakery or grocery store.

Dried fruits like dates and figs are higher in calories than fresh fruit, but a few can be chopped and used as festive toppings for fruit-filled puddings, gelatins, or low-fat mousse.

Poached fruits are easy to prepare and can include dried fruits as well as firm fall selections like apples and pears. The following two recipes make the most of the nutritious fruits, and you can double or triple the ingredient amounts depending on the number of servings you want.

continue to cook while cooling). Remove from the heat and let pears cool in liquid. Remove cinnamon sticks.

For the sauce, combine the cocoa and sugar, whisk in water and honey, bring to a full boil over medium heat. Boil for 2 minutes, stirring constantly, remove from the heat and stir in the vanilla extract. Let the sauce cool (it will thicken upon cooling).

Drain the pears thoroughly and pat dry on paper towels. Arrange the pear halves on individual plates. Drizzle with chocolate sauce, garnish with lemon rind strips, and serve at room temperature. Each of the 8 servings contains 168 calories and less than 1 gram of fat.



POACHED APPLES WITH CRANBERRY-CINNAMON SAUCE

4 medium tart-tasting baking apples
1/2 cup dark brown sugar
1 1/2 cups plus 2/3 cup water
1 cup fresh cranberries
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1/3 cup white sugar
1/2 cup raisins, soaked in hot water for 15 minutes and drained

Wash and remove the core from the apples, so that their centers are hollow. Place them in a large saucepan with 1/2 cup of brown sugar and 2 1/2 cups of water. Bring the water to a boil, then reduce the heat to low, cover, and simmer for 10 minutes, or until the apples are just tender. Baste occasionally with the syrup in the pan while cooking.

Meanwhile, in a medium saucepan, heat the cranberries, cinnamon, 2/3 cup of water and 1/3 cup of white sugar over medium heat. Boil gently for 10 minutes. Cool slightly and puree in a blender or food processor until smooth. To serve, pour the sauce on the apples and into the cored centers and sprinkle with a spoonful of raisins. Each of the four servings contains 256 calories and no fat.

POACHED PEARS WITH CHOCOLATE SAUCE

2 1/2 cups water
7 Tbsp. granulated sugar
Grated rind and juice of 1 lemon
1 cinnamon stick
4 pears
Lemon rind, cut into thin strips and curled

Chocolate sauce:

1 cup cocoa powder
2/3 cup water
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup honey
1 tsp. vanilla extract

In a large saucepan, combine the water, sugar, lemon rind, lemon juice and cinnamon stick. Bring to a boil, stirring until the sugar is dissolved.

Peel, halve and core the pears. Add the pears to the boiling syrup. (Pears should be covered in liquid; if not, double the amount of poaching liquid or poach in batches.)

Reduce the heat to medium-low and simmer gently for 15 to 20 minutes or until the pears are almost tender (pears will



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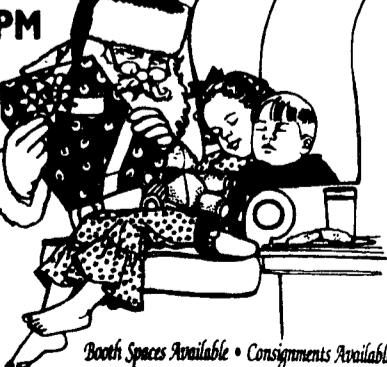
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Coast bookstore presents 'A Symphony of Authors'

The Gulf Coast has always been a haven for authors, and this Christmas season, Coast residents will have an opportunity to meet 12 currently published authors.

Coast Books, 2700 13th Street, Gulfport, plays host to these authors Thursday, Dec. 4, 6-9 p.m. Never before in a bookstore on the Coast have so many authors been in the same place to meet Coast readers, sign books. This authors' signing is easily one of the biggest Christmas events of the season.

The variety of books include art, architecture, history, fiction, humor, children's, biogra-

phy, cooking, travel and poetry. The specific books and authors are:

Travel: *The Insider's Guide to Mississippi* by Lisa Monti; and *Weekend Getaways in Louisiana* by Mary Foneaca

Fiction: *Carnival Stories* by Victoria Olsen and *Nobody's Baby* by Elizabeth Smith

History: *To Live and Die In Dixie* by Grady Howell

Art: *Moods of Mississippi*, edited by Gulf Pines Girl Scouts

Architecture: *French Quarter Manual: Architectural Guide* by Malcolm Heard.

Children's: *Welcome to Bayou Town* by Chari Schadler and

The Red Neck Night Before Christmas by David Davis

Poetry: *Moments* by Jane Stanley and *Carmen Engram*

Humor: *Cajun Humor from the Heart* by Tommy Joe Breaux

Biography: *Jennie, the Last of the Puffer Girls* by Hazel Buck

Cooking: *The Gulf Gourmet* by Westminster Academy

Contributors to the *Gulf Gourmet* will be serving samples of several recipes.

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Mississippi-made gift items features on website

The Mississippi Gift Company, a Greenwood-based mail order catalog company that exclusively offers food and gift items made in Mississippi, has recently introduced a website: <http://www.magifts.com>.

Customers can now purchase pre-made gourmet gift baskets, individual gift items or create their own gift baskets online or by phone from their free 32-page color catalog. Products offered include cheese straws, cookies, candies, cakes, jellies, candles, t-shirts, magnolia pro-

ducts, gourmet coffee, potpourri, hand-painted linens, barware and baskets manufactured in Mississippi towns.

"The Mississippi Gift Company offers over 350 unique Mississippi-made items created by over 80 Mississippi manufactureres," said Cindy Tyler, owner of The Mississippi Gift Company.

These products can be purchased at their retail outlet in Greenwood, by calling 1-800-467-7763 for a free catalog or by visiting their website.

Stocking stuffers

Stocking stuffers are usually the last item on your Christmas list. Sometimes it may be difficult to find the right surprises so we put in the same old gifts as last year.

You can make this year special with these great ideas for sensational stocking stuffers.

GREAT GIFTS FOR GUYS

Men usually get socks, underwear and cologne. These gifts are nice, but rarely a big hit.

Substitute for traditional stuffers:

- * Racy or silky underwear
- * Wool argyles or luxurious cashmere socks

Sports fans:

- * Tickets for an upcoming sports event
- * Tennis balls for the tennis pro

- * Golf balls for the golf fanatic
- * Water bottles, tire pump or cycling gloves for the cyclist

- * A watch or timer for runners

Executive ideas:

- * Cuff links
- * Leather belt
- * Suspenders
- * Leather business card holder

FOR THE LADY OF THE HOUSE

The list of great gifts for women is endless. Substitutes for traditional stuffers:

- * Silky or lacy underwear or bra

- * Pantyhose with a design
- * Imported bath soaps, powders or scented oils

- * A sachet of potpourri

Simple surprises:

- * Bracelets, bangles or earrings

- * Hair accessories such as costume jewelry, hair clip, decorative combs or festive ponytail holders

- * Sample of her favorite cosmetics

Working women:

- * Business card holder
- * Scarf to match a suit
- * Pins in funky shapes for the lapel or scarf

LASTING MEMENTOS FOR KIDS

It's always fun for children to get candy, stuffed animals, match box cars and windup toys, but here are some other ideas:

- * U.S. Savings Bond

- * A piece of heirloom jewelry

- * Grandma's brooch or pearls

- * Christmas ornament with date printed on it

- * Miniature pewter frame with a baby picture or well-loved family photo

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Money management makes holiday season successful

With all the advertising charms aimed at consumers during the holidays, many people are carried away by the Christmas spirit without remembering to manage their money.

Families often make the mistake of neglecting to prepare fi-

nancially for the holidays. It can be difficult to finance much celebration without considering of where the money is going to come from beforehand. Families often make it through Christmas using credit, but then have trouble paying the bills in the new year.

Dr. Beverly Howell, extension family economics and management specialist at Mississippi State University, said there are several ways to get through the holiday season successfully.

Howell said plan ahead for Christmas expenses to be prepared to make good spending decisions.

"It's very common to get caught up in the holiday season and make financial decisions that are not to one's advantage," Howell said.

One of the best ways to prepare for Christmas is to make a budget early.

"Stop and take a look at your expenses, and make sure you take everything into consideration," Howell said. "When people think of Christmas expenses, they often think of the cost of gifts. However, there are several other expenses such as decorating, cards and postage, extra food and any travel costs."

Once a practical budget is determined, the family must come up with a means to finance it.

"For most families, taking the extra Christmas money out of a regular pay check just isn't going to work," Howell said.

The management specialist said an ideal way to prepare for Christmas expenses would be to figure a budget, divide the total

cost by 12 and save a fraction of the money each month. Another way to avoid a money crunch in December is to stagger gift buying throughout the year.

"Some families deal with the extra expenses by taking on extra work or relying on credit," Howell said. "Before you make the decision to rely on credit, look at how the additional debt is going to fit into your budget later."

Some other money management tips Howell offered were to make a list, to shop early and to use the same consumer shopping skills that you would during any other time of the year.

"When you make a list, include as much information as possible. Include sizes and price ranges. The more information you have, the less likely you will be to make a bad buying decision," Howell said.

"Also shop early," she said. "When you wait until the last minute to shop, the options are fewer and often more costly."

Always remember to read labels and warranties and know each store's return policies when buying gifts. These actions help avoid problems for the gift receivers.

Howell said there are alternative to spending a lot of money during Christmas, and everything doesn't have to be bought.

"Certainly Christmas does not always have to involve money to the extent that we often feel it does," Howell said.

"Christmas is a wonderful time for sharing talents, making gifts and offering services."

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Holiday happenings at Carey

William Carey College on the Coast is preparing for the holiday season with a gallery opening, charity drives and their "Seventh Annual Lighting of the Oaks" with an open house.

Christmas Events

Kappa Pi Student Christmas Art Sale: Dec. 3-11, reception and silent auction, Wednesday, Dec. 3, 7-9 p.m. The public is invited, free or charge.

Seventh Annual Lighting of the Oaks and Open House, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Public is invited, free.

Student Government Association Pantry Drive, Dec. 8-16. Boxes will be located throughout the campus. Goods will be donated to families in need. Will adopt two children associated with the Angel Tree project.

Baptist Student Union: Weekly ministry at the Harrison County Children's Center. Will also adopt two children associated with the Angel Tree project.

beauties.

Air drying is an easy method of drying plant materials naturally without the use of chemicals. After the plants are thoroughly dried, they can be beautifully arranged in pots, baskets or wreaths. Properly dried foliage last for up to a year.

Here are some tips for air-drying flowers:

- Air drying requires a warm, dry, dark, clean space where materials can rest undisturbed for three to five weeks.

- Collect only fresh material at its peak; flowers are best before coming into full bloom. Materials should be prepared for air drying immediately after picking. Remove foliage unless specifically gathered for the arrangement, as most foliage does not dry well.

- Gather materials into small bunches, ten to 20 stems per bunch, keeping stems the same length. Flower heads should not be pressed together as this limits ventilation.

- Tie stems tightly with string and hang bunches upside down. Make sure air can circulate be-



tween the bunches and between each individual stem.

- Materials are completely dry when the foliage, flower heads and stems are stiff, crisp and completely dry to the touch.

- Containers used in arrangements should be of simple shapes and colors so the focus of the arrangements is not the container.

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Tips offered for divorced parents to give children strife-free holiday

The divorce of parents is never easy for children, but the holiday season, with its intense focus on the family, can be especially upsetting.

However, divorced parents can take steps to make the holidays a happier time for their children, says Dr. Stan O'Dell, a University of Mississippi psychology professor, offering the following advice:

- Talk things over ahead of time. Discuss arrangements for the holidays with each other and with the children as far in advance as possible, advises O'Dell.

"This gives you each time to think about it and make adjustments if the need arises. Try to keep alive any cherished family traditions, but don't be afraid to add new ones that reflect your new situation in a positive light."

- Be flexible. Holidays are hectic and stressful for everyone, so be prepared to work out a compromise.

"Children don't always have to celebrate Christmas with

both parents exactly on Dec. 25. You can make the celebration special for them whether it's on Christmas Eve, Dec. 26, or even at Thanksgiving," the psychology professor said.

Parents should consider putting aside their differences for a short time to jointly enjoy their children as they experience the joy of the season. However, O'Dell points out that although this can be an excellent option, it's not best for every family.

Although everyone's wishes should be considered, children's needs are what's important. "Divorced parents frequently learn that they can be a lot more flexible than they ever thought they could be."

O'Dell offers a suggestion for parents or grandparents who live far away from the children: Mail presents ahead of time. Then call at an appointed time on Christmas Day, so you can be on the phone as they open the gifts, sharing in their excitement.

- Avoid unfulfilled expectations. Make sure your child-

ren know what your plans are well before the holidays begin. Doing this helps ensure they have reasonable expectations with less likelihood for disappointment.

"Parents often put a lot of pressure on themselves to 'create magic,' but life isn't always magical. The best thing you can do is prepare your children for what could turn out to be a less-than-perfect Christmas," he said.

O'Dell also cautions against getting into a gift-giving competition with your ex-spouse or yourself. "Don't give such elaborate gifts that you feel you have to top yourself or your former partner every year. In the long run, there's no way you can make up for a year's worth of mistakes and letdowns with a lot of expensive presents. Your children will know if you really care for them because you will have had regular, lengthy contact with them throughout the year."

- Remember the season of good will. Keep in mind that even if you have bitter differences with your ex-spouse, the person is still the only other parent your child will ever have. Avoid criticizing their holiday plans or gifts, suggested the Ole Miss psychology professor.

Also, it's nice gesture to make sure your child has the means (allowance, etc.) to buy the other parent a gift.

"This lets the child know that even though you may be divorced, you still want good things to happen to the other parent," O'Dell said. "Keep in mind that the best gift you can give your child is a loving, strife-free holiday season."

Good holiday photos require planning

By Bonnie Coblenz
MSU Ag Communications

Capture those cherished holiday memories with a familiar camera, a first-time or once-a-year attempts can have disastrous results.

Jim Lytle, senior photographer with Mississippi State University's Office of Agricultural Communications, said many holiday photographers have disappointing results. Many common mistakes result from not knowing the camera well.

"Most people think they can just pick up a camera and use it," Lytle said. "That works sometimes, but you can take better pictures if you read the manual and fully understand the camera settings."

When a camera has not been used recently, inspect and test it before the holidays arrive. Check the battery and replace it if it is weak. Batteries should not be left in an unused camera for long periods as they can leak and ruin the camera.

"If it may be six months or longer between uses, remove the battery and keep it in a plastic bag in the camera case," Lytle said.

Clean dusty camera lenses with photographic lens paper. Eyeglass paper or leaner can ruin the lens.

"Once you've checked the camera, take a short roll of film and develop it, so by the time the holidays come around, you will know the camera is working well," Lytle said.

When taking pictures, there

are a few pointers to follow. "Look through the center of the viewfinder," Lytle said. "Many people don't center the viewfinder to their eye and end up leaving heads and arms out of pictures."

Another common mistake is standing too far away from the subjects.

"Fill the viewfinder with your subjects," Lytle said. "If you're using a flash indoors, you should be between four and 10 feet from your subject."

Using the flash depends on conditions, but is generally required for all indoor shots, Lytle said. However, since so many cameras are automatic, that decision is made by the camera.

If pets will be in the picture, take these outside in available light. Most pets do not like the camera's flash.

Even with an operational camera and an idea how to use it well, there is another option for people who want to ensure they record the event. When it's time for special pictures, don't hesitate to call in a professional.

Hiring a professional is a more sure way of getting a good picture with everyone smiling nicely," Lytle said. "With self-timers, you really don't know when the timer will take the picture and you may not get the image you wanted."

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Gifts for healthful cooking from A to Z

If you're still stuck for holiday gift ideas, why not give a gift that will help make preparing and eating healthful food a real pleasure during the new year. Here's a list of suggestions from the American Institute for Cancer Research:

— **Air-Popping Popcorn Makers:** Electric machines that make unburnt, perfectly popped popcorn every time without the fat and calories from popping in oil. It's a great way to encourage healthful snacking (per cup, popcorn contains 2.5 grams of fiber and only 25 calories). Include non-fat butter-flavored crystals, a spice mixture, or butter-flavored canola oil spray as a healthful topping.

— **Bread-Making Machines:** Being able to make fresh bread easily can help add more grain fiber to someone's diet — and health authorities recommend eating at least six servings (one serving equals one slice of bread) of grains per day, especially whole grains such as whole wheat.

— **Choppers:** They look like miniature food processors, and hold about two cups of cut-up vegetables or fruit. Electric choppers can mince vegetables in seconds to add to sauces for extra nutrients, or puree chick peas, cottage cheese and other low-fat foods into spreadable consistencies for delicious and healthful dips; add your favorite herbs and spices. Fruits can be pureed for topping toast or non-fat yogurt and other desserts; or make a chutney to use with your favorite lean meat entree.

— **Defatting Gravy-Makers:** Kitchen specialty shops stock special containers that have long spouts on the bottom, so that you can pour your meat drippings in, refrigerate for the fat to rise to the top, and then just pour out the defatted juices through the spout in the bottom.

— **Electric Can-Opener:** A very welcome helper in the kitchen, especially for anyone who has arthritis.

— **Fish-Poacher:** For a perfect poached fish cooked all in one piece, look for a 24" poacher (sold by most department stores and gourmet kitchen specialty stores).

— **Garlic Braids:** Researchers have found that garlic, like onions, contains healthful substances called "allylic sulfides" that may help protect us against cancer development. Italian markets, gourmet shops or kitchen specialty stores stock braids of strung bulbs for a long-term supply.

— **Herb Mill:** Help someone learn to flavor their foods with herbs instead of fat when cooking by giving them an herb mill (similar to a pepper mill) that grinds fresh or dried herbs for the most flavor.

— **Ice-Cream Maker:** While high-fat, high-calorie ice cream may not be your goal, an ice cream maker can also make delicious low-fat ice cream, frozen yogurt, sherbets and sorbets. These machines are available in a wide variety of price ranges and forms.

— **Juicers:** Many types of juicers are available at a range of prices. For the most nutrition, select one that gives the option of retaining the fiber-rich pulp from vegetables and fruits.

— **Kettle:** Tea-drinkers may be interested in the fact that both black tea, popular in the U.S. and Europe, and green tea, popular in Asia, have been found by researchers to have polyphenols, compounds that may help protect against cancer development. Give a new kettle and a nice variety of gourmet teas.

— **Lighthearted Everyday Cooking:** The cookbook by bestselling author Anne Lindsay, published in cooperation with the American Institute for Cancer Research (250pp., color photos). To order, send \$16.95 to AICR, Dept. CB5, Washington, DC 20069.

— **Microwave Oven:** If you really want to splurge, a microwave oven can be a god-send to the person who is too busy to spend a lot of time in the kitchen. Microwaves are perfect for steaming healthful foods like fish and vegetables deliciously without fat.

— **Non-Stick Pans:** A great way to cut fat in cooking, and they will last a long time if used properly by using only wooden or plastic utensils and non-abrasive cleaning materials.

— **Olive Oils:** Dozens of spe-

cialty brands are now available in different grades of "purity" and can be purchased already flavored with herbs, in attractive bottles. Olive oil contains mostly monounsaturated fatty acids and, while still recommended by health experts to be used in moderation like all fats, has been found to lower harmful blood cholesterol.

— **Pasta Machine:** For rolling and cutting home-made pasta. The ideal gift for anyone who loves to cook Italian style.

— **Quinoa:** Quinoa is just one of several exotic grains that can liven up one's everyday diet and supply whole-grain fiber. Gourmet and health food stores carry quinoa; a home-made gift pack might also include packaged barley, bulgur wheat and couscous.

— **Roasting Racks:** For placing in roasting pans to let the fat drip away from meats and poultry.

— **Salad Spinner:** Avoid soggy salads with a reasonably priced salad spinner that spins and dries lettuce, spinach and other leafy greens in a jiffy.

— **Terra-cotta Casseroles:** Bake marvelous, low-fat stews of vegetables and poultry, fish or lean meat using a terra-cotta stew pot that cooks foods gently and lets flavors intermingle.

— **Unsalted Snacks:** Get your friends and family to enjoy food with less salt, such as unsalted pretzels, low-fat gourmet crackers flavored with pepper and variety of herbs, and unsalted, baked tortilla chips available at health food stores.

— **Vegetable Steamer:** For the best-tasting, best looking and most nourishing veggies cooked without fat, there are many varieties of steamers, ranging from authentic Chinese bamboo steams to the new electric types available in most department stores.

— **Wok:** Chinese woks are specially designed not to burn food at high temperatures, because the heat is evenly distributed to cook a perfect stir-fry in just minutes, using a minimum of oil.

— **Yogurt Makers:** Non-fat yogurt is one of the best ways to add calcium to your diet, and with a yogurt maker you can always have some on hand, made with your own original flavors.

— **Zester:** A special orange and lemon grater will add a little extra zest to festive food and drinks.

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Story of Christ's birth found in two biblical passages

The Christmas nativity scene displayed in many Christian households during the holiday season gathers certain powerful images of the birth of Jesus Christ: the child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger; Mary and Joseph at the side of the newborn; wise men bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh; shepherds in the field; and the presence of angels.

But where exactly does the story come from? Textually, that is.

All of the above images are from the Bible — the New Testament Gospels — but not all are from the same story. Of the four Gospels only two, Matthew and Luke, tell of the birth of Jesus Christ, and the stories differ greatly in details. The popular nativity scene of today often combines elements from both.

The Gospels of Matthew and

Luke were written in late first century in different parts of Christendom.

The Gospel writers were conditioned by their times and their individual perspectives, and we today may sometimes have difficulty understanding those perspectives," said Dr. Ted Klingen, a Bible scholar and for 15 years a deacon at St. John's Catholic Church in Oxford.

When Linus steps into the spotlight during Charlie Brown's Christmas play and — with the compelling voice of innocence — delivers the angel of the Lord's message, he is speaking pure Luke in the King James version: "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Sa-

your, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

In Luke's story (Luke 2:1-20), the Good News is first delivered to common shepherds. Luke tells of no wise men, no angel appearing to Mary, no flight to Egypt by the family to escape King Herod's slaughter of the innocents (children under the age of two). Those people and events are part of Matthew's version (Matthew 1:18-25 and 2:1-12).

Matthew provides the story of the wise men — the number three is not mentioned — who follow a star in the sky. "At the sight of the star they were overjoyed. Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and bowed to the ground in homage to him; then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

No stable here. No shepherds in the field. In Matthew, the news of the birth is first recognized by wise men from the East, men prominent enough to influence Herod.

So do the two Gospel stories complement or contradict one another?

"Complement," said Klingen, who along with his religious vocation is director of health and safety and professor of chemistry at the University of Mississippi. "The Gospels are faith stories told from different points of view, not necessarily accurate history. Although we believe the Bible was inspired by God, it was still written down

by human beings."

In the early Christian church, the birth story apparently was not a key issue. In fact, Christmas was not celebrated until the fourth century, when the newly converted Roman Emperor Constantine joined it with a pagan festival that on Dec. 25 honored the birthday of the sun.

"Christmas isn't the only

Christian holiday with historical connections to pagan festivals," Klingen said.

But even though the differences between the birth stories by Matthew and Luke may pique the curiosity, it is what they have in common that holds more interest for adherents of the Christian faith — namely, that Jesus the Messiah was born in Bethlehem.

While waiting for Saint Nick, get children involved in holiday preparations

With parents running around trying to get all the details ready for the Christmas holidays, children are sometimes all but forgotten in the race against time. Parents need to involve children in holiday preparations, giving youngsters the added benefit of feeling valued and an integral part of an important holiday.

"This lets children know they are important and what they do is important. It gives them a feeling of self-worth," said Dr. Anne Bomba, associate professor of family and consumer sciences at the University of Mississippi.

She offers the following ideas for parents to enjoy with their children:

- Let children be creative. There are many items that can be used to create distinctive and inexpensive holiday wrapping paper and greeting cards.
- Bake and decorate cookies.

Use some on the Christmas tree. Also, carry children by neighbors' homes, so young-

sters can share some of their creations with others.

- Make Christmas ornaments out of anything.
- Play dough, plastic lids, styrofoam and paper scraps. Decorate them with sequins, glitter, yard or even buttons.
- Create garlands for the Christmas tree or other spots around the home.

Garlands can be made by stringing popcorn, fresh cranberries, cereal, candy, marshmallows or a combination of things.

- Let kids assist in decorating the table for a holiday meal.

Children can help by making place cards or place mats. Get them involved in planning the menu or even in preparing one of the menu items.

- Assist children in writing letters.

Whether it's the familiar "Letter to Santa" or a letter to grandparents expressing their dreams of what this Christmas will bring, youngsters will enjoy this avenue of communication.

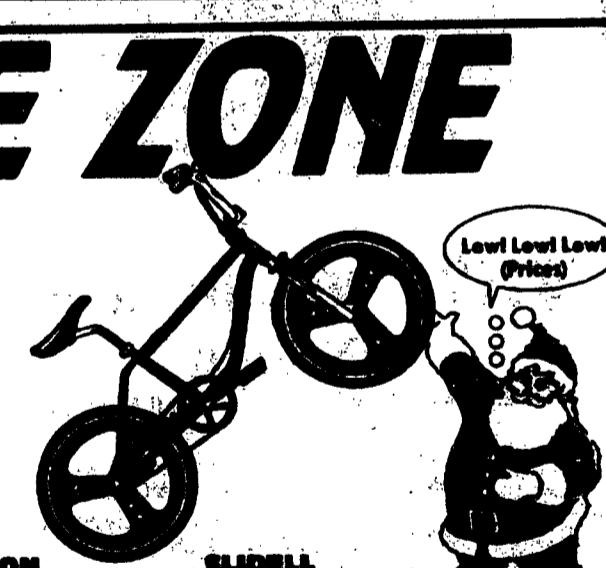
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Remembrance of things past makes for traditional Southern Christmas

Louisiana, Arkansas and Alabama — three Southern states — were the first in the nation to make Christmas a legal holiday in 1836. Since then, the South has taken Yuletide quite seriously, and a passing of traditions has formed.

Antebellum folk in the deep South often regarded Christmas Day as a restful social day filled with feasting. Although they preserved such European customs as caroling, burning the Yule log and decorating with greenery, Southerners added their own touches to holiday traditions.

"Many of these Christmas traditions centered around the holiday meal," said John T.

Edge, a University of Mississippi graduate student in Southern studies.

"Most of the more traditional Southern foods are as old as the colonial South and present a melding of three dominant culinary traditions: Native American, African and European," said Edge, who recently presented a program on Southern foods at the Smithsonian Institution.

"For most Southerners, nowadays, Christmas dinner is very similar to Thanksgiving dinner. Turkey is the usual centerpiece of the late afternoon meal, though ham is quite popular and oysters have always been a popular indulgence for the

landlocked."

Edge maintains that the primary difference in Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners is the dessert.

"While at Thanksgiving a product of the local harvest like pumpkin pie is traditional, Christmas has always been the time for indulgence in 'store-bought' treats like oranges, coconuts or a dish made from both, like ambrosia. The oft-maligned fruitcake is another example of a homemade treat studded with store-bought items like citron and rum."

With the rise of the rural country store, store-bought goodies came into fashion in the decades following the Civil War. Under the difficult conditions that faced Southerners during Reconstruction, they held on to the Christmas holiday with a fervor, said Edge.

The two or three-day holiday from care and concern brought not only relaxation and feasting but also exotic luxuries — oranges, coconuts and oysters.

Homemade goodies for Christmas included meat cured at home, simple cakes decorated with citron, the traditional plum pudding and eggnog, as well as corn pudding and sweet potato pie.

"Christmas and Christmas traditions can be very localized," Edge said. "For instance, Germanic heritage may show its influence in the inclusion of sausages in the dressing of a Christmas meal in mid-South Carolina, for example, and French Catholic Traditions are evident in the New Orleans *Reveillon*, an opulent breakfast served after Christmas Eve midnight mass.

"Creamy, egg drinks like eggnog and syllabub are the choices at Christmas and are indicative of English influence.

Eggnog is the holiday drink of choice," said the Ole Miss student. "Originally powered by strong ale or beer, bourbon is a Southern adaption."

All in all, said Edge, home and hearth remain the center of Southern holiday dining traditions. "But remember," he said, "down South we call it dressin'. Heaven forbid that is should be referred to as stuffing!"

Although some of the southern holiday food would not appeal to the nutritionally conscious, those who want to learn more about traditions from the past might refer to *The Southern Christmas Book* by Harnett T. Kane published in 1958. Edge described the book as a fine source for traditional Southern recipes, citing these examples:

GEORGE WASHINGTON EGGNOG

4 eggs
1 1/2 c. sweet potatoes, boiled and mashed
1/3 c. sugar
2 tsp. honey
1/2 c. crushed pecans
2/3 c. milk
1/3 c. orange juice
1 tsp. vanilla
pinch of salt

Combine the liquors, then separate the eggs into yolks and whites. To the yolks, when beaten, add the sugar and mix. To this slowly add the combined liquors, very lightly while you beat very slowly. Then add the milk and cream, again working slowly. Beat the egg whites until they are stiff and fold into the mixture, then set for several days in a cool place until ready to serve.

CRACKLING BREAD

1 qt. corn meal
1 tsp. salt
1 pinch soda

1 c. finely chopped cracklings
well-greased baking pan
hot but not boiling water
to make a stiff batter

(Cracklings are bits of crisp browned pork fat.) Blend the meal, salt, soda and cracklings with enough hot water to make a rather stiff batter and bake in a moderate oven.

TIPSY PUDDING

Take a loaf of sponge cake, cut it into large pieces, and put these in the bottom of a glass dish. Stick almonds into the cake. Pour half a pint of wine over this, then make a boiled custard and pour it over all. Top with a meringue made of three egg whites and three tablespoons of powdered sugar, brown lightly in the oven and serve cold.

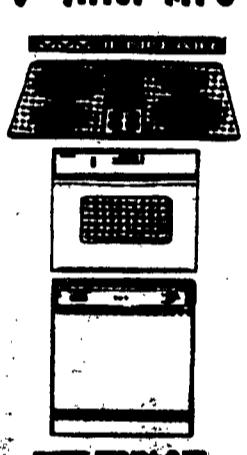
LOUISIANA SWEET POTATO PIE

4 eggs
1 1/2 c. sweet potatoes, boiled and mashed
1/3 c. sugar
2 tsp. honey
1/2 c. crushed pecans
2/3 c. milk
1/3 c. orange juice
1 tsp. vanilla
pinch of salt

Beat the eggs until they are light, then combine with potatoes and sugar, beating thoroughly. Stir in the other ingredients and place the mixture in a pastry shell, baking at 450 degrees F. for about 10 minutes. Lower to 350 degrees F. and continue for about a half hour longer. After the pie is cooled, cover with whipped cream; an interesting addition is a mixture of grated orange peel and nutmeg.

Continued on next page

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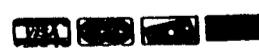
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Computers as Christmas gifts call for savvy Santa

Computers on many Christmas lists may mean a heavier load for Santa Claus this year, as families begin to realize that life without such technology is no longer a wise option. Choosing just the right computer and accessories to fill each request may also present a problem for the jolly fellow.

So what's a Santa to do? Turn to the Internet, of course, ad-

vises Kathy Gates, supercomputer user consultant at the University of Mississippi.

"There's appropriate information available for everyone at any stage of technology use or if they're just beginning to think about buying a computer," she says.

"Parents can even join in an on-line bulletin board discussion about what's best for their child." She answers the following questions on buying and using computers:

- Where do I begin?

Most public libraries offer networked computers with Internet access, which you can use to help you decide whether or not you want to invest in computer technology and research a possible purchase.

Check out on-line vendors' buying guides, which suggest appropriate systems for certain users, including systems for home. The following sites will get you started: Gateway at www.gateway.com, Dell at www.dell.com and PC World at www.pcworld.com/hardware/. For information on software, see techweb.cmp.com/hpc.

- What do I need to fully benefit from computer technology?

To get the most out of computer technology, in addition to buying a computer, Gates suggests investing in a modern and subscribing to an Internet Service Provider (ISP). Modems are usually included as an op-

tion in new computer purchases, and many vendors are now offering high school modems (56 Kbps) at very reasonable prices, says Gates.

With your new computer, a modem and a subscription to an ISP, you can access the Internet from home. Call a university or community college computer center near you for information on ISPs. PC World also offers an on-line ISP finder service at www.pcworld.com/interactive/isps.html.

- Is my child too young to be introduced to a computer?

"Even very young children can have fun and learn on the Internet," says Gates. To sample what's available for entertaining preschool children, for example, try the following web sites: Dr. Seuss' Seussville offers fun games at www.randomhouse.com/seussville/; Children's Television Workshop also offers games, including dot-to-dot, at www.ctw.org/; and Richard Scarry at www.scarry.com/ features activities that prepare children for reading.

- How are computers being used effectively by parents, teachers and students?

Visit the Internet site www.zdnet.com/athome/content/btschool or www.family.com/backtoschool/ where you can talk with other parents via a bulletin board discussion.

While visions of bicycles dance in their heads, think about safety precautions

A perennial favorite on the Christmas list of youngsters is a new bicycle. These two-wheeled vehicles are the ultimate expression of freedom for your children.

Parents want to please their children — especially during the holidays — but it is their job to keep them safe, too, says Linda Christian, a crime prevention and training officer at the University of Mississippi.

Children and parents alike can ensure bicycle safety by taking certain precautions, says the University Police Department officer. She offers the following tips:

- The gift is not complete without a helmet.

Parents should provide bicyclists with helmets, and child-

ren must understand helmets should be worn on every ride. A helmet may be the only thing to protect them during a fall or collision. As far as other safety precautions, Christian advises that children wear long pants and make sure shoelaces are tied before beginning a bicycle ride.

- Establish boundaries right away.

Setting limits on where children may ride is a good idea, depending on their age and maturity. Parents should also teach youngsters the rules of the road: ride with traffic, stop and look both ways before entering the street; stop at all intersections, marked and unmarked; and before turning, use hand signals and look in all directions.

In addition, children should be taught never to ride bikes at night. If these rules are broken, parents should consider disciplining appropriately, says the Old Miss crime prevention officer, remembering that carelessness could cause serious injury or even death.

- Make informed decisions when choosing a bicycle and equipment.

This may be the most important thing that a parent can do, says Christian. There are many different models of bicycles, some for casual riding and others for high-performance riding. To choose the right size bike, a child should remove his or her shoes and straddle a bike with a crossbar.

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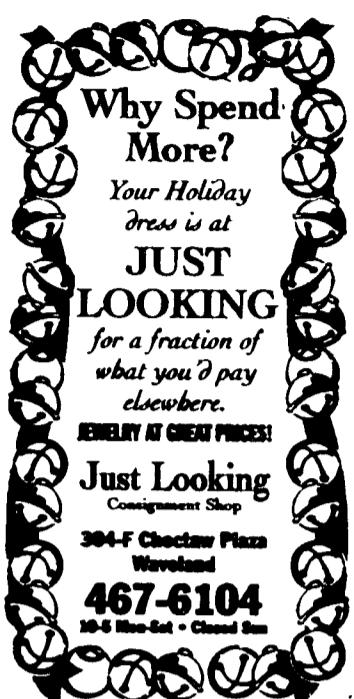
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When the holidays are not happy

While the holidays can be the happiest time of the year for many, for some, it is a time of dread. For individuals who feel alone, images of ideal "happy families" can heighten the feeling of loneliness. Those who have suffered a bereavement often feel a resurgence of grief at the holiday season. Those with family members spread across the country may have to make hard "choices" of whom to spend the holidays with, creating hurt feelings and guilt.

Even for individuals who enjoy the holidays, there are increased demands on time, energy and finances that can cause additional stress. In families where both parents

work, there may be guilt that traditional holiday preparations cannot be made for their children, as was made for them when they were young.

With all these stressors in action, it is important to distinguish between the "holiday blues" and clinical depression. While they share some of the same symptoms and people use the term "depression" loosely in conversation, the two are very different entities and require different strategies to alleviate the depressed mood.

Clinical depression is a mood disorder that is caused by a chemical imbalance in the brain. While its cause and treatment lay in the brain's

neurochemistry, life events may trigger a bout of depression in a susceptible individual. The stresses and strains of the holidays might trigger a true clinical depression.

Holiday blues are just what they sound like: feelings of sadness, anger and tiredness coming at a time when people are supposed to be filled with joy. And, because they are supposed to be filled with the holiday spirit, add guilt to the above list. It is a transient feeling that does not require medical treatment and may be minimized by following a few simple strategies.

A case of the holiday blues will pass, but the National Foundation for Depressive Illness (NAFDI) offers some suggestions to minimize the stresses of the holidays:

- Do not take on more activities than you can handle; be realistic about what additional holiday responsibilities you can comfortably accept.
- Maintain your normal sleeping, eating and exercising patterns as much as possible.
- Plan a holiday budget, and stick to it; do not overspend or run up large credit-card bills.
- Keep your alcohol intake moderate; alcohol is actually a depressant. If you have a drinking problem, get the support you need during this especially difficult period.

Far more serious than the holiday blues is when the stresses of the holiday season trigger or worsen true clinical depression. Those who have had depression before should watch for the symptoms; those who are a family member or friend of that person should watch for the signs. These include:

- depressed mood
- loss of interest in things you used to enjoy
- changes in appetite and/or weight (more or less)
- changes in sleeping patterns
- fatigue
- feelings of worthlessness
- recurrent thoughts of death or suicide

If you know you are susceptible to clinical depression, follow the above guidelines, and look for the symptoms. If you are experiencing these symptoms, go to the doctor. If you are experiencing these symptoms for the first time in your life, your doctor can assess whether you are suffering from clinical depression and advise you on effective treatments. Clinical depression is treatable in 80 percent of cases.

To learn more about clinical depression, call NAFDI's toll-free info line: 1-800-248-4344.

Is It Just 'the Blues'?

"The blues" are a normal reaction to unhappy or stressful life events. Depressive illness is not. It's a serious, debilitating condition that can lead to suicide. Use the following checklist to help determine if you or a loved one may be suffering from depressive illness.

SELF-TEST FOR DEPRESSIVE ILLNESS

- I feel extremely sad all or most of the time.
- I seem to have no energy.
- I've lost interest in most of the activities I used to enjoy.
- I sleep much more (or much less) than usual.
- I eat much more (or much less) than usual.
- I have trouble concentrating, remembering and making decisions.
- I feel hopeless about the future.
- I feel worthless.
- I feel anxious.
- I think about death and suicide.

If you agree with two or more statements, and if the symptoms have persisted for at least two weeks, the National Foundation for Depressive Illness (NAFDI) urges you to consult a biological psychiatrist for diagnosis and treatment. NAFDI's toll-free info line, 1-800-248-4344, tells you how to send for a complete information packet, including a list of doctors and support groups in your area.



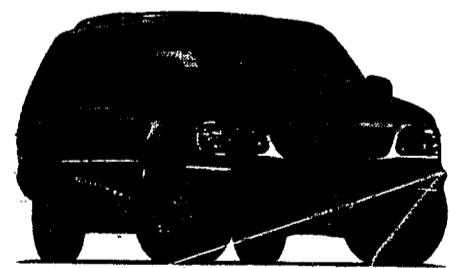
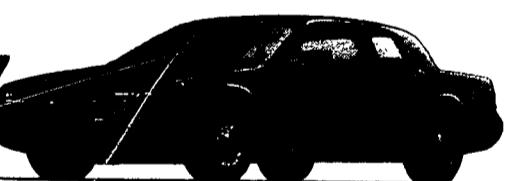
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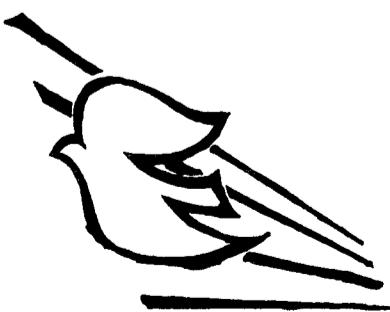
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Unusual family holiday traditions create sentiment, yearning for home

Christmas for families usually means trimming the tree, arranging holly and evergreen, hanging stockings, awaiting Santa Claus, opening gifts and sitting down for a holiday dinner.

But unusual holiday traditions passed along for generations are often the most memorable, and serve to strengthen family ties, says Betty Jane Gary, instructor in home economics at The University of Mississippi.

Decorating the tree, for example, can become more meaningful for families when it's done at the same time year after year, with much the same collection of ornaments, she said.

"Some families always decorate the tree on Thanksgiving weekend, others wait until Christmas Eve."

"The longer any tradition is carried on using the same familiar items, the more meaningful it becomes. And after children are grown, each season the sentiment returns with that feeling of wanting to go home again and be part of family."

Christmas accents like wreaths, tree ornaments and nativity scenes should be kept from year to year, with new additions from time to time.

"Sure they become shopworn, but that's what adds the sentiment and makes them special," Gary said.

"Collect the wreaths, and finally there will be one for every door in the house."

Incorporate other cherished items into holiday decorating, she suggested. "Families shouldn't feel like they need to go out and buy the latest craze. We're a collectible society, and this is a great way to use things that usually catch dust or stay packed away in the attic."

Mementos from years of vacations; collections of pottery, silver or brass; old toys; quilts; and dolls are some of the things the Ole Miss instructor — who is also an interior decorator — suggests using.

To be successful and enjoyable, traditions must be personal with families, said Gary, who shares some of her family's



favorites:

- When her three daughters were preschoolers Gary began a mother-daughter Christmas party and ornament exchange with friends and their children. The tradition lasted throughout the girls' teen-age years.

- Family vacations and travels usually included picking up collectibles, that is, everything from sea shells and infants' silver cups to music boxes. Many of those items are brought out at Christmas as the focal point for a centerpiece or other decoration. For example, the many, many silver cups the Gary family has collected over the years are tied with colorful ribbons and used for holiday punch.

- Adult family members exchange stockings each Christmas, keeping the stocking until the following holiday. The giver picks up "stuffers" throughout the year and returns the stocking to its owner at Christmas full of little surprises.

- The family's collections of silver, brass and crystal are used in decorating.

"Certainly not all is fine and expensive, but every kind imaginable and each with special meaning," said Gary.

She uses such things as colorful felt or satin for the base; adds red and green ribbons, greenery and sparkle dust; and viola — creates an attractive ar-

angement with sentiment attached.

- A fairly recent addition to the Gary family's Christmas celebration to accommodate a new generation of grandchildren is the European tradition of "poppers," small paper-wrapped surprises that when "popped" turn into a crown or hat. They're available in specialty shops and catalogs.

"Just a little thing, but something that children will look forward to and remember," she said.

- Lots of fresh greenery and holly is used throughout the house: garlands around the entrance doors, along the staircase, around pictures and mirrors and on mantels. Fresh garland is expensive, so Gary suggests gathering your greenery and taking it to a florist who offers the service of turning it into a garland.

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Ease shopping burdens with planning

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By Allison Powe
MSU Ag Communications

As holiday excitement builds, so do the stress levels for many shoppers faced with the hassles of finding Christmas gifts.

The Christmas frenzy doesn't have to make shopping a burden. Organization and creativity are keys for handling the holiday season.

Dr. Beverly Howell, extension family economics specialist

at Mississippi State University, said starting early is the ideal way to handle Christmas shopping.

"When you wait until the last few days before Christmas to begin shopping, you have fewer options to choose from," Howell said.

Early shoppers find stores not as picked over and they are not under as much pressure to make quick decisions.

"Organization helps consumers manage not only their time, but their money as well. Decide ahead which gifts to search for, and make a list to help stay focused," Howell said.

"Making a list helps you to determine a reasonable budget. The sooner you start, the more choices you have about how to handle holiday costs," she said.

Creativity can play a big role in finding perfect Christmas gifts. For shoppers on a strict budget and those shopping for the person who already seems to have everything, creative thinking can be their best resource.

"Gift giving doesn't necessarily mean a dollar sign has to be attached. Unique presents created by using your own time and talents are often the most meaningful gifts of all," Howell said.

"Baked goods are always special, but there are many other creative ways to come up with gifts that don't necessarily cost a lot of money," she said.

Homemade coupons for various things such as mowing lawns or taking a person shop-

ping are especially valuable to the elderly and others who have difficulty doing some things for themselves.

"Gifts centered around someone's hobbies or interests are usually appreciated very much. Making an effort to find out about a person's pleasures can result in gift ideas that are affordable and sure to be liked," Howell said.

Ordering gifts through the mail is an ideal way to save time and avoid the hassles of crowds.

Howell said consumers should apply the same rules to mail ordering as they would when shopping in a store.

"Don't forget to compare prices when looking through catalogues. Also check out return policies and delivery fees, and be sure to allow enough time for the gift to arrive before Christmas," Howell said.

Keep the original budget in mind when shopping on credit. Consider how holiday credit bills will affect the overall budget when these payments are due.

"Above all, when you plan Christmas shopping, keep in mind that gifts are only one part of the holiday expenses to be considered. The costs of entertaining, traveling and decorating can also add up," Howell said.

"Planning early and making lists to organize and prioritize expenses will help consumers avoid holiday stress and ensure they are able to have the kind of holiday they want," Howell said.

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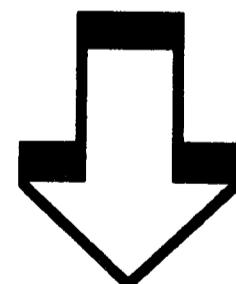
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Use good judgement when choosing toys

By Linda Breazeale
MSU Ag Communications

Everyone loves to see a child's face light up over a special gift on Christmas morning, but adults need to think beyond Dec. 25 as they shop for children's toys.

"Many adults buy gifts with the goal of seeing an excited reaction to the newly opened present," said Dr. Louise Davis, extension child and family development specialist at Mississippi State University.

"But the real test of success will be the amount of and quality of play with the toys. How long will the child play with it? How will the toy benefit the child's development?"

Davis said the answer does not rest on the price tag, and excessive spending is not a good idea with children.

"Young children cannot comprehend cost, and their favorite toys often are the least expensive," Davis said. "Stressing the budget to make the family happy can backfire by causing

extra tension. The children may even feel responsible for the stress."

Here are some guidelines for choosing children's toys:

- Choose toys that foster creative play. Will it stimulate the child's initiative, imagination and skills?

- Toys that require decision-making can help build self-confidence. Choose toys that help children learn how to learn.

- Select "kid-powered" toys. Batteries can be undependable and costly.

- Make sure children have a wide variety of toys, not all books or all balls. Choose toys for all the child's developing needs.

- Choose toys that will grow with the child. These toys must be sturdy to last several years.

Davis recommended gifts with open-ended activities that will stretch the child's imagination.

Art supplies — like colors, paper, paint — or boxes with costume-type clothes can entertain children for hours," Davis said. "Kitchen sets, doll houses, balls and construction toys can be enjoyed long after Christmas day."

Watch the age appropriateness of each gift. Don't rush children to toys for older ages.

Safety is a major consideration for all ages, but especially for those under 3. Davis said to make sure all toy pieces are larger than the end of a toilet paper tube.

When giving gifts like bicycles, skates and skateboards, include safety equipment like helmets and kneepads.

"The most important gifts cannot be purchased. They are the gifts of time, patience and a high self-esteem," Davis said.

"Parents should not let the stress of gift buying hinder a healthy relationship with their children."

Gifts from the heart

No gift means more to the recipient than a gift you made yourself. People appreciate the time you spent making the gift.

Popular gift items that can be made at home are: folk art, painting on wood, tole painting, counted cross stitch and needle-point samplers, hand-painted t-shirts and sweatshirts, beaded ornaments, decorative wreaths and dried floral arrangements. The list is endless, and every crafty person has his/her own specialty.

Although you may think you can save money by making your own gifts, they are not always inexpensive to make. The cost of craft supplies has increased along with everything else on the market today.

The best way to give a gift from the heart and save money is to plan ahead. If possible, right after Christmas decide what gifts you want to make for the next Christmas. By doing this you will have a whole year to watch sale ads then get your supplies while they are discounted. Knowing everything you need to make may get you motivated to start making gifts early.

Buying in bulk is also a money-saver. Each year, make everyone the same type of gift. This will allow you to buy supplies in bulk and concentrate on making just one type of craft.

When you want to give a gift that's from the heart, consider making some of the gifts you give. The recipients are sure to love them!

THE SEA COAST ECHO, CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1987-21

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Did you know

The first known Christmas trees in America were those decorated for children in a German church settlement in Bethlehem, Pa. on Christmas morning in 1747.

The "trees" were actually wooden pyramids covered with evergreen boughs. Candles, apples and poetry verses decorated the boughs of these first Christmas trees.

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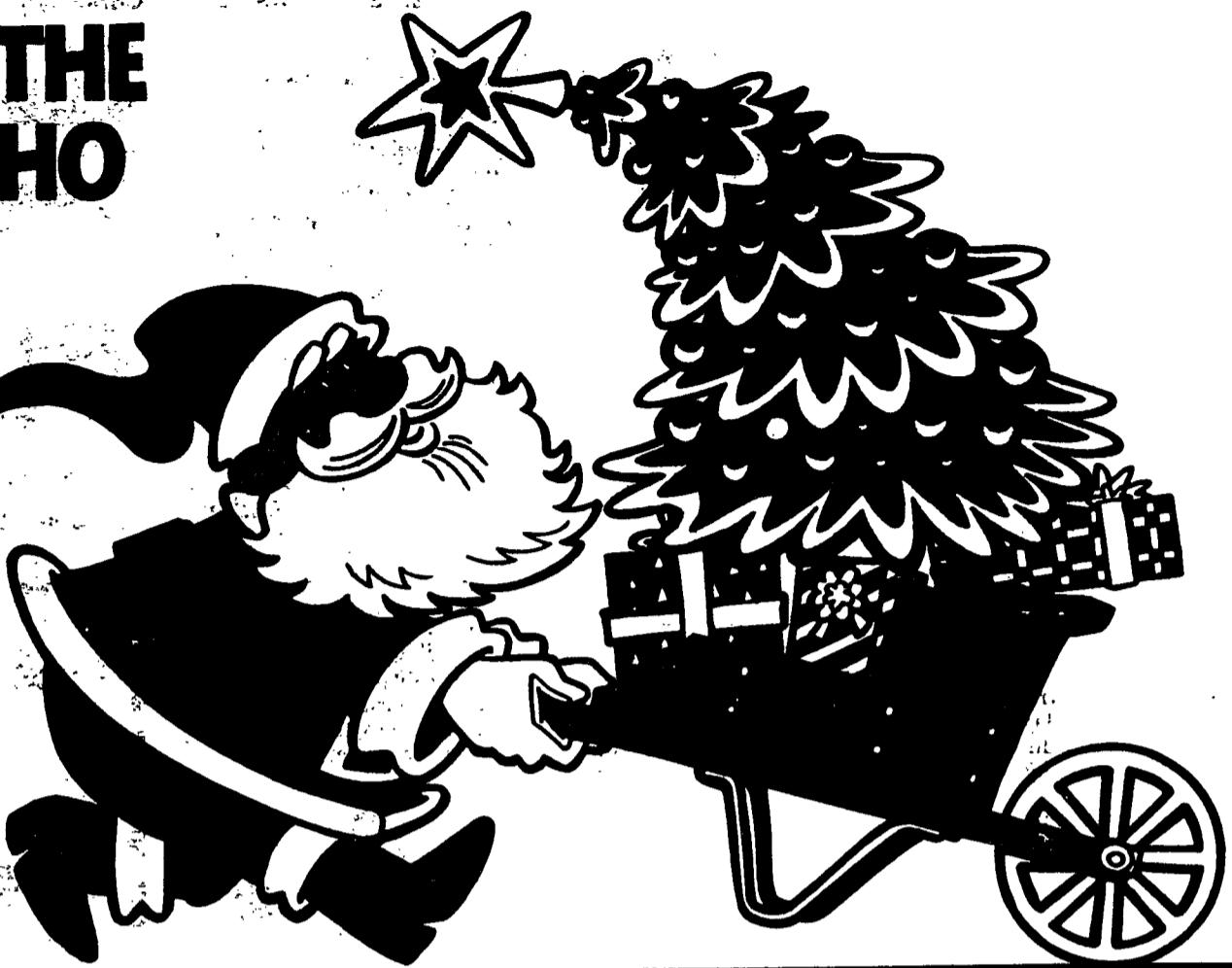
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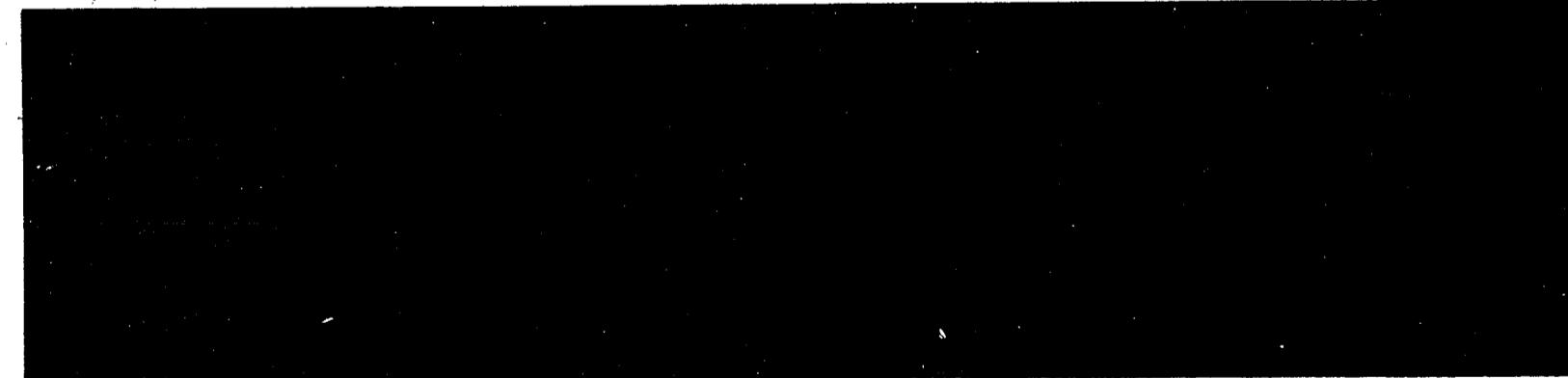
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Try this quiz for Christmas

- What sign of the Zodiac does Christmas fall in?
- Literally, what does Christmas mean?
- What tree is known as the "Christmas tree"?
- What is said to be the oldest and most traditional of Christmas party games?
- When was *A Christmas Carol* first published by Charles Dickens? a) 1843, b) 1898, c) 1900?
- How was Boxing Day derived?
- What are you supposed to do when you stir a homemade plum pudding?
- When was the first Christmas tree described? a) 1907, b) 1705 c) 1605.
- What was frankincense used for?
- What is myrrh?
- On the 11th day of Christmas what, according to the song, did "my true love bring to me"?
- Twelfth Night is the fest of what, and on which day does it fall each year?
- What were mince pies originally made to symbolize?
- On what tree is mistletoe usually found growing?
- Was Good King Wenceslas a real or fictitious character?
- What was the full name of the miser in Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*?
- Which Christmas song became the biggest-selling pop hit of all time?
- Who had a chart-topping best-selling record with "Mary's Boy Child" at Christmas 1957?
- Who, or what were "mummers"?
- What does the word "carol" mean?
- The white-flowered winter-blooming hellebore (*Helleborus niger*) is better known as what?
- When was Christmas first generally observed? a) 2nd century b) 10th century c) 4th century.
- What day marks the be-

ginning of Christmas in Scandinavia?

What is the name for Santa Claus in Denmark?

Most American Christmas foods have their origins in Europe. What is one exception?

Answers

- Capricorn.
- Mass of Christ.
- The spruce.
- Blindman's Bluff.
- a) 1843
- It was a day when servants carried boxes around to collect bonuses from their employers.
- Make a wish.
- c) 1605. A visitor to Strasburg wrote, "They have fir trees here decorated with paper roses, apples, sugar, gold and wafers."
- Embalming.
- An aromatic resin, prizes as a perfume and a medicine.
- Eleven pipers piping.
- Epiphany, celebrated on Jan. 6.
- The Manager.
- Apple trees (and sometimes oak, too).
- Real. He was a good king of Czechoslovakia who was murdered by his jealous brother.
- Ebenezer Scrooge.
- Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" recorded by Bing Crosby in 1942.
- Harry Belafonte.
- Actors and actresses in Middle Ages who went from house to house performing plays, especially at Christmas.
- Joyous song.
- The Christmas Rose.
- c) 4th century.
- St. Lucia's Day on Dec. 13.
- Julenisse.
- The cranberry, which was introduced to the Pilgrims by native Americans.



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more than two cups of water added.

After the mixture is complete, you can apply the snow to trees or other greens. Wearing rubber gloves protects you from the pine needles. Drape handfuls of the snow on each branch. For a lighter snowfall, flick the soap on using a whisk or long-bristled brush.

The last step is to sprinkle the mixture with dry soap flakes. This gives your decorations the fluffy white look you want. Let your decoration dry at least 90 minutes before moving.



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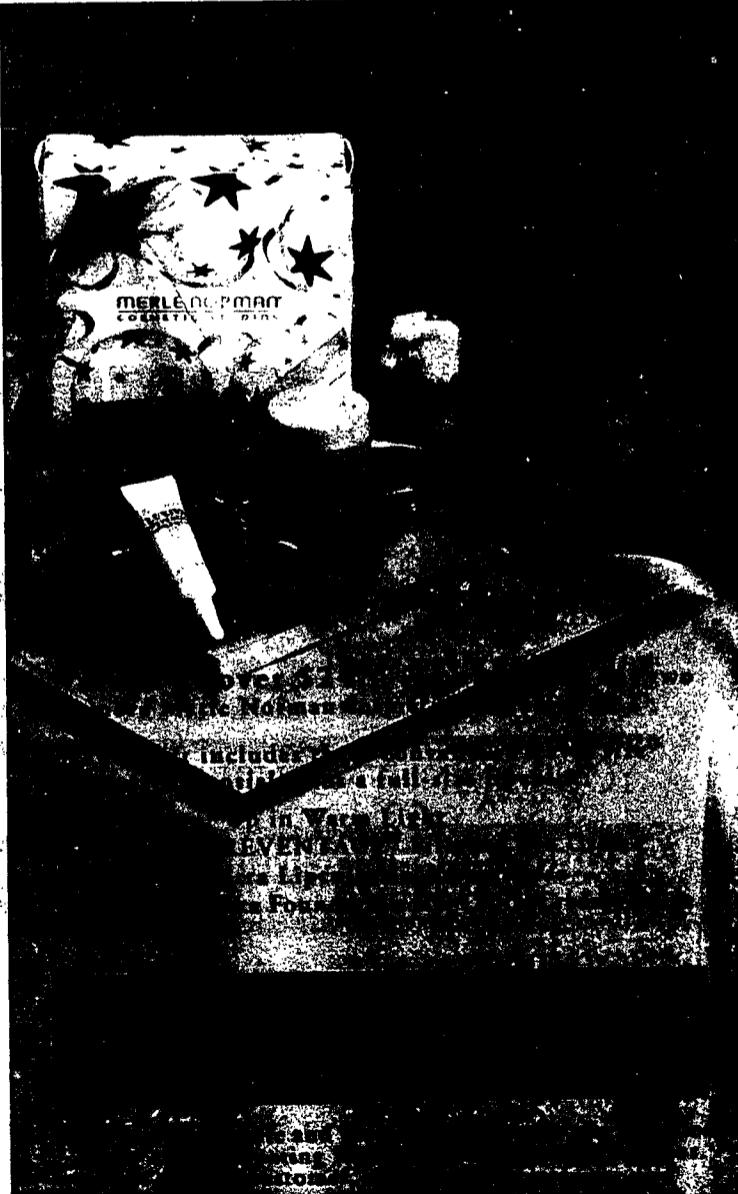
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Tips offered for keeping Christmas trees fresh

Those who prefer the look and scent of a real Christmas tree to that of a sterile, artificial one are probably once again wondering what to do to keep this year's tree from drying out, shedding its needles and becoming a potential fire hazard.

Two University of Mississippi professors have some suggestions that might help you deal with this perennial holiday dilemma.

If you buy your tree at the grocery store or another commercial outlet, you should cut an inch off the base before placing the tree in a stand, both professors said. This will remove any sap that may have built up on the old cut and increase the tree's ability to take up water.

To prevent the tree from drying out and subsequently losing its needles, water it every day.

Dr. Evamaria Neumaier — a botanist who helps curate Ole Miss' herbarium, a collection of dried and preserved plants — recommends watering with a solution of equal amounts of water and glycerin. Glycerin may be purchased from most florists or drugstores.

Dr. Jack Davis Brown, an Ole Miss modern language professor who also owns a garden center in Oxford, recommends standing the tree in lukewarm water (or water that has reached room temperature) to which 7-Up or Sprite has been added.

"The effervescence seems to help the tree absorb moisture, and the sugar may help prevent the needles from dropping off," he said.

Most Christmas trees available now were cut around Thanksgiving, Brown said, so

the only way to ensure that your tree is fresh is to cut your own. If that's not possible, he said, there are a couple of things you can do to test the freshness of trees you are considering for purchase.

After picking a likely tree, shake it. If a lot of green needles drop off, choose another, he said.

You can also bend a few needles to check for elasticity, Brown said. If the needles

break, the tree is dry. If they bend, the tree is fresher.

If you also like to use fresh pine and cedar greenery during the holidays, Brown said you should condition it to keep it from drying out. To do so, simply soak the greenery in water for several hours, then shake it out and arrange it as desired. Misting the greenery periodically helps prevent it from drying out, too.

Used Christmas trees enhance fish habitat

Shortly after Christmas day, evergreen trees begin to appear at the end of driveways awaiting garbage pickup. But just as Christmas boxes and wrappings can be recycled, so can Christmas trees.

Dr. Marty Brunson, extension wildlife and fisheries leader at Mississippi State University, said Christmas trees can be recycled to increase fishing yields.

"The trees can be recycled by using them as fish attractors, and it's very simple to do," Brunson said. "Using the trees as fish attractors will enhance fishing and make 'fishing holes' more convenient."

Recycling the Christmas trees also is more "environmentally friendly" and decreases garbage collection.

To recycle Christmas trees, tie them together in groups of three to five. The groupings should leave enough space between the branches for fish to hide. Place the groupings in convenient spots for fishing in a lake or pond.

"These arrangements are limited only by your imagination," Brunson said. "Fish like to be around some type of structure or cover where they can hide."

Small fish need the structure for protection, and larger fish flock to the structure to feed on the smaller fish.

"These attractors make it easier for fishermen because fish don't randomly distribute in a pond," Brunson said. "Fish like to have a shelter of some type."

Weight the Christmas trees to the bottom of the lake or pond to make stationary shelters for fish. Cinder blocks or buckets of concrete make good anchors.

Place the attractors 3 to 4 feet deep to remain cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Locate them close to irregularities, such as the edge of a drop-off in a creek bed or creek channels.

For easy fishing, place the attractors 12 to 15 feet from a pier.

"Put them just far enough to reach with a cane pole," Brunson said. "Only one fish attrac-



tor should be placed in every 2 to 3 acres of water to prevent overcrowding."

Marking the spot of the fish attractors is a good idea. Use duck decoys, milk jugs or stakes to mark the new fishing spots. Tie the marker to the trees before they are placed into the water.

Safety is a key to having efficient and long-lasting fish attractors.

When a boat is needed to drop an attractor in a lake or pond, two people should help with the activity.

"Always wear a life preserver and be careful not to overload the boat," Brunson said.

Because the Christmas trees are biodegradable, the fish attractors generally last five to seven years.

"It is a good civic activity and it reduces the burden on landfills," Brunson said. "It also provides an alternative method of disposal and enhances the habitat for the fish."

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When selecting toys, use child's perspective

To find a toy that will hold your child's interest long after the holidays, you have to think like a child. Look at what he or she can do with the toy, rather than what the toy itself can do.

"The child makes the toy, rather than the toy makes the child," says Brian Sutton-Smith, professor emeritus of the University of Pennsylvania. "Participation is the key."

"If children stay with a toy, it's because they're getting something out of it. It's a toy that really excites them," explains Sutton-Smith, a psychologist and folklorist who has written many books on children's play, games and toys.

Sutton-Smith is the recipient of a BRIO Scholarship, awarded by BRIO AB of Sweden, the world's largest manufacturer of wooden toys, in recognition of his extensive research on children, play and toys.

The toy company, which is recognized internationally by early childhood development specialists for its commitment to lasting play value, quality, safety and fun, asked Sutton-Smith to offer parents some pointers on play and toys.

To underscore the importance of play, Sutton-Smith points to recent brain-imaging research which shows that neurons in a baby's brain form more than 1,000 trillion connections or synapses in the first few months. These synapses must be strengthened and reinforced by experiences, however, or they will be eliminated, research shows.

"The brain begins as more of a set of possibilities," he says.

• Toys foster imagination, some better than others. As children grow older, imagination becomes increasingly important in play. "They can

turn something to their own use, which isn't even in the toy, and build things around it," Sutton-Smith says.

- Toys maximize solitary explains. "The neural connections you keep depend on how much you do, on how much those potentialities are exercised. Play probably maximizes the very ability of the early brain more than anything else."

Both play and toys are critical in developing flexibility, Sutton-Smith emphasizes. "The rest of life tends to be limiting and conventional. In play, you're allowed to change the rules," he says.

To provide a variety of experiences and promote flexibility, Sutton-Smith says, the most important factor to consider in choosing a toy is what he calls its "variable ability" — how many different things a child can do and learn with the toy.

The best toys provide the most opportunities for children to explore and develop different skills, he says.

In addition, parents should provide a variety of toys to amplify specific skills a child has, like in music, athletics or the visual arts, as well as to help the child maximize basic skills, he suggests.

In choosing toys, parents should also consider the multiple functions that play and toys fulfill, Sutton-Smith suggests.

- Toys allow children to be in charge and to master an idea or skill, providing a sense of satisfaction.

- Toys provide information. By playing with trains and cars, for example, a child grasps the concept of these phenomena in his or her life.

- Toys help establish identity. Play gives children the sense that they are the mother, the cowboy or the truck driver.

time. Playing with toys accustoms a child to doing something on his or her own and "being able to be fantastic."

- Toys can be a comfort to children and serve a bonding function.

"To choose appropriate toys, you need to know your own child and what interests him or her most," Sutton-Smith says.

In his 20-plus years in the toy industry, Peter F. Reynolds, president of BRIO Corp., says he has seen a growing number of parents recognize the importance of play in their children's development.

"There's a greater emphasis today on selecting good toys that will grow with a child's developmental needs and interests," Reynolds notes.

Using BRIO Wooden Railway as an example, Reynolds explains that the extensive variety of track pieces, bridges, trains and accessories allows children to develop increasingly complicated track layouts and play scenarios as they mature. They learn spatial relationships and fractions by building with different lengths of track. Magnets, pulleys and lift bridges introduce science principles.

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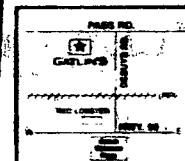
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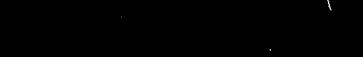
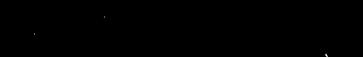
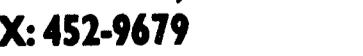
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Send holiday wishes that say the right thing

Words can warm the heart and touch the soul; they can lift one's spirits and inspire creativity. They also can brighten the holiday season this year.

A new collection of quotations from best-selling author Rosalie Maggio offers thoughts on education, love, life and the soul that are sure to delight and motivate those who read them. Each book in the four-volume series offers hundreds of thought-provoking quotations for the serious wordsmith and the casual reader.

Ranging from the practical to the comic, the 600 observations on teaching and learning in "Quotations on Education" will intrigue educators, parents, students and all those who believe that education is

forever ongoing. Written by people in a variety of disciplines, these quotes offer something for everyone.

Meaningful to readers of all ages, "Quotations on Love" features 700 quotes that express the many ways people love — as a child, parent, friend, animal companion and spouse.

"Quotations From Women on Life" is a joyous collection of quotations that express life's highs, lows and everything in between. This fresh anthology challenges readers to think, laugh and reflect on life.

With more than 600 inspirational quotes — both secular and religious — "Quotations for the Soul" helps people explore their inner selves, from their beliefs to their

search for holiness and wholeness. Each 192-page volume, published by Prentice Hall, is available at bookstores nationwide for a suggested price of \$13.95.

These books also have companion journals available, offering readers the perfect place to express the thoughts and feelings that were inspired by reading the quotations. Featuring many quotes of their own, the journals have 160 unlined pages trimmed with beautiful borders, ideal for writing down thoughts, notes and sketches. Each has a suggested price of \$8.95.

People can say just the right thing to those they care about this holiday with this collection of quotations that will touch the mind and soul.

The search for the perfect gift

Having a hard time finding the perfect holiday gift for that hard-to-please loved one, boss or workplace associate? Are you deciding what to get someone who has everything, needs nothing, but expects the best? If so, you are not alone.

Consider these facts: According to a survey undertaken for American Express Gift Cheques, an estimated 116 million gifts are returned each year after the holidays, and 28 percent of Americans admit to "gift recycling," or passing on a gift intended for themselves to someone else.

Etiquette expert and author Hilka Klinkenberg says that gift returns are frequent because givers either can't or don't know the recipient's needs and tastes. She believes that people have the greatest difficulty with two categories of gifts: those for family members who seem to "have everything" and gifts for workplace associates or clients where little is known about

their taste.

Klinkenberg favors pairing the elegant American Express® Gift Cheque with a holiday treat or another low-cost item. "A gift certificate gives the recipient the ultimate flexibility of choosing his or her own gift, while the smaller gift adds a personal gesture," she says.

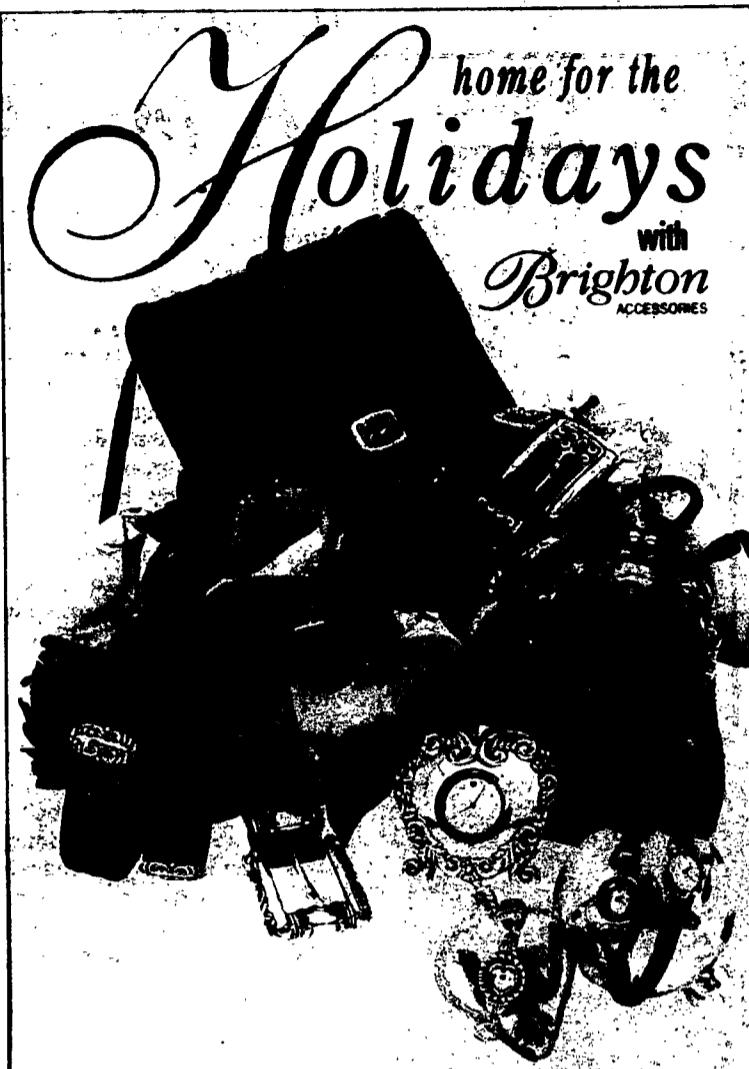
A gift cheque can be used to buy almost anything virtually anywhere. It is available in multiple denominations and can be purchased at many banks, credit unions, AAA offices and AmEx Travel Service Offices, or consumers can call 1-888-689-9338.

Klinkenberg also recommends giving a gift that will help friends and families stay connected from a distance, like a prepaid phone card. The FirstClass PhoneCard, available from the U.S. Postal Service and American Express Telecom Inc., bears collectible art with colorful holiday images. Both the American

Express Gift Cheque and FirstClass PhoneCard are replaceable if lost or stolen.

Great gift-giving tips

- A universal gift certificate packaged with a personal touch is a "win-win" gift for family members and colleagues.
- A practical gift that matches the style and needs of the recipient is the best choice for friends and relations.



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Treatments

A perfect antidote to stress

When the usual "Happy Holidays" greeting hovers dangerously close to becoming "Bah, Humbug," stress has crept up to replace the joy of the season. A gift of relaxation — for a loved one or yourself — is the perfect natural antidote to holiday tension. For centuries, aromatherapy and hot-and-cold therapy have been used to comfort, relax and cure. Now, Spa Concepts allows even the most tuckered-out holiday revelers to unwind in the comfort and ease of their private home.

Transform achy muscles in quiet comfort — The Spa Wrap-Up from Spa Concepts is an herbal wrap that can be heated or chilled to relieve aches and pains. After a long day spent braving "cheery" holiday crowds, this soft, terry-covered wrap conforms to the shape of your stiff neck, aching back or sore shoulder.

Simply wrap it onto the affected area, and secure it

with the convenient hook-and-loop closure. Relaxing, curative lavender works with the hot or cold to soothe your holiday stress.

Soak away your stress — A few hours before the annual holiday party (or, better yet, the morning after) why not take a break to luxuriate in a warm, candlelit bath using Tranquilité Bath Salts. The hydrotherapy that is the basis of many expensive spa treatments is easy to re-create at home. These bath salts are a perfect blend of mineral and dead sea salts infused with aloe, vitamin E and tea-tree oil. The aromatherapy benefits of lavender, rosemary, rose and geranium oils provide a calming bath experience perfect for easing holiday tension.

Indulge in a true spa experience — Many people are not used to taking the time to pamper themselves. Stress from work, family pressures and expanding "to-do" lists are

at fault for taking away the ability to relax. Spa Concepts allows you to rescue someone you know with the "Time To Relax" Gift Collection. This special, thoughtful gift set includes Eye Spa, a natural herbal relaxation pillow; two herbal tub teas; two effervescent Tranquilité Bath Seltzers; and a 2-ounce bath and shower gel.

Taking time to wind down

with a pampering home-spa experience is just the way to alleviate holiday stress. As a relaxing gift to yourself, you'll be better able to make the holidays an enjoyable, joyous occasion. As a gift to loved ones, they can forget the stress of the season and begin to enjoy the celebration. For more information on these gift ideas, call 1-800-573-2790. The Spa Concepts collection is priced from \$12 to \$25.

Baseball Cards Are Great Stocking Stuffers

They're fun, collectible, inexpensive and come in their own wrapping paper. Major League Baseball card packs are the perfect stocking stuffer for fans of all ages. A wide variety of officially licensed Major League Baseball trading cards are available from manufacturers like Donruss, Fleer, Pinnacle, Topps and Upper Deck. Card packs may include anywhere from five cards to 12 cards, ranging in price from less than 99 cents to approximately \$4. Come this holiday season — while many are assembling, returning and exchanging — your loved ones will be flipping, pitching, trading and collecting. Baseball cards are available year-round at general retailers and hobby stores everywhere.

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Are poinsettias poisonous?

In the past, poinsettia plants were believed to be fatally poisonous. These plants were thought to be especially harmful to small children. For these reasons, many people choose not to decorate their holiday home with poinsettias.

There is little evidence to support claims of fatally poisonous poinsettias. In fact, the plant will probably cause nothing more than gastrointestinal upset. According to Richard Weisman, Pharm.D., director of the New York City Poison Control Center, the gastrointestinal upset can range from mouth and throat irritation to vomiting and diarrhea. If you suspect your child has eaten part of the poinsettia plant, contact your local poison control center. If the poison control center approves, give the child milk to calm his or her stomach.

All house plants should be kept out of reach of children. Place your poinsettia in a spot where children cannot reach it.

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Keeping memories alive with gift

The holidays are just around the corner, and you haven't finished shopping yet. You still have to get something for mom and dad.

You want it to be something unique — something that shows how much you care.

It's not easy.

Perfume? That won't last long.

A tie? Ditto.

A Cadillac? That would be nice.

Or, you could give them

"Memories For My Loved Ones."

Now, here's something that will still be around 100 years from now.

That's worth thinking about. You see, in 2047 (50 years from now), your mom and dad probably will be forgotten.

Then again, maybe not. If you give them "Memories For My Loved Ones," a book of 1,175 questions everyone has about his or her family, their

great-grandchildren could be curled up on the sofa 50 years from now reading their life story.

Now, there's a nice thought.

What kind of questions are in this unique book?

Questions like:

"What did you want to be when you grew up?"

"How long did it take to travel 30 miles when you were a child?"

"How much did your first job pay?"

"How much did your first car cost?"

"What's the worst job you ever had?"

"Where were you when John Kennedy was shot?"

All you have to do is give this book of questions to your mom and dad, and ask them to fill it out. When they give it back to you, you can keep it as a family treasure forever.

It will bring back a lot of memories for you, and your grandchildren probably will get a hoot out of some of the answers. If you look really close, you'll probably even see them brush away a tear now.

and again.

The people you give this book to will appreciate it more than any gift they'll receive this year — and maybe ever. Just knowing that you want to learn about their life will make them feel warm deep down. It's a gift that will be remembered the rest of their lives.

You can't buy "Memories For My Loved Ones" in bookstores, because each book is handmade when an order is placed. Each is carefully bound and tied with a silk ribbon, giving it the look of a family heirloom. You can even have mom or dad's name custom-printed in silver on the elegant burgundy cover free of charge.

You can order your personalized copy for \$24.95, plus \$4.50 shipping and handling. Additional copies can be ordered for \$19.95 each. The book is backed by an unconditional satisfaction guarantee.

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Choirs scheduled to perform at the Marine Education Center Christmas Open House

The J. L. Scott Marine Education Center & Aquarium (MEC&A) has added musical presentations to the Christmas Open House scheduled for 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, free to the public.

Area church and school choirs and the Walter Anderson Players will perform Christmas music.

Choirs performing to date are from Gulfport High School, Magnolia Park Elementary, Ocean Springs High School and St. James Catholic Church.

The Walter Anderson Players will also present a musical review, "One Crazy Night Before Christmas." Players ages four to 13 will perform.

Marine educators will give a Christmas theme to educational presentations on topics such as crabs, sharks, wildlife, birds, sea turtles and shells.

The Christmas Open House will feature such hands-on activities for children as sea creature ornament-making, a puppet activity and "Sandy" Claus art. Santa Claus will also visit the MEC&A the day of the open house.

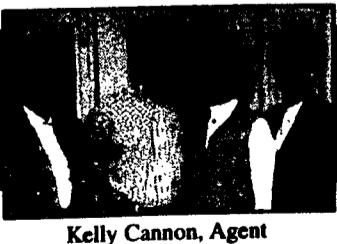
The Marine Education Center will showcase Christmas decorations with a marine theme throughout the month of December. The lobby and Aquarium Room will be decorated and available for public viewing.

Refreshments will be served, and visitors may register for door prizes.

The Marine Education Center is located at the west end of the Biloxi Bay Bridge next to the Isle of Capri. The center is one of three coastal campuses of the University of Southern Mississippi's Institute of Marine Sciences.

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Christmas cookie tradition— Grandmas Bea's sugar cookies

By Colleen Miner

One of my fondest childhood memories was watching my Grandma Bea make sugar cookies. She had a huge crockery bowl and a wooden spoon. For Grandma Bea, making cookies was a long, arduous process. She would roll out the dough and let me cut the cookies out with the tin cookie cutters. We would bake them, and after they cooled, we would decorate them with frosting and sugar. The final step was to carefully thread string through the tops of the cookies, so they could hang on the tree.

I don't know how it happened, but now I'm the grandma! I also love to bake and decorate sugar cookies with my grandchildren. I use my Grandma Bea's recipe and add a few tricks of my own. The big crockery bowl is still in use, but the old wooden spoon has been retired to make way for my hand mixer. I whip up the batter in no time at all.

My grandchildren love the decorating trick I've added to the recipe. After we have cut the cookie shape, we cut an extra hole and fill it with crushed hard candy. When the cookies bake, the candy melts like colored glass. We still hang the cookies on the tree as ornaments, but now they glow like stained-glass windows.

Stained-Glass Window Cookies

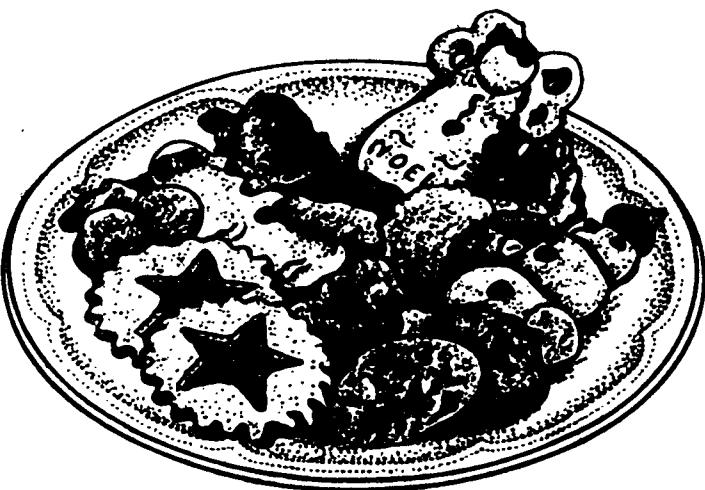
1 cup butter or margarine
1 cup sugar
2 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 1/2 cups flour
Crushed hard candy, sorted by color
Aluminum foil

In a large bowl, beat the butter with the hand mixer until softened; then add the sugar, and beat until fluffy.

Christmas syllabub

The annual Christmas syllabub of the Gulf Coast Opera Saloon is scheduled 2-4 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Orange Grove Community Center, Hwy. 49.

The Long Beach High School Madrigal Singers will perform, and the Opera Buff Award will be presented.



Add the milk and vanilla, and blend. Gradually beat in the flour. Form the cookie dough into a disc, wrap, and chill for at least an hour.

Roll the chilled dough out on a lightly floured surface. Use a lightly floured cookie cutter to cut shapes and a small round cookie cutter to make the holes. Place the shapes on a foil-lined cookie sheet. Add about 1/2 teaspoon of the crushed candy to the

hole. Bake the cookies in a 375-degree oven for about 8 minutes. Let the cookies cool on the foil for about 10 minutes. Peel off the foil.

Colleen Miner appears regularly on television news programs across the country. Her cookbooks "Together in the Kitchen" and "Treat Yourself" are filled with recipes that put a modern twist on traditional family favorites.

When it comes to the holidays, give the best — and the worst

What is the least fattening Chinese food?

Which is the best sparkling wine?

Who is the most influential attorney in the United States?

Where is the sunniest vacation spot in the South?

Whether someone on your gift list loves to travel, always craves the best or is just plain curious, there's a new book that may answer all of his or her questions.

An interesting read and a good resource, "The Definitive Guide to the Best and Worst of Everything" (Prentice Hall, \$16.95), by Les Krantz, lists more than 8,000 categories of the best and worst from around the United States and the world. Top 10 and bottom 10 lists offer ratings and descriptions of just about everything, from where to get the best hamburger to how intelligent dogs are. Based on facts from reliable sources, the book is informative and useful, and its colorful commentary makes it entertaining.

Krantz, who has written

several reference books specializing in interpreting statistics, took his fact gathering seriously. He drew from credible sources, studies, citation analysis, critical acceptance, number of awards and even sales figures to write this 320-page guide. He also arranged everything alphabetically for easy reference, putting a wealth of information at your fingertips.

Available at bookstores nationwide, this book may be the perfect gift for a friend or loved one, and it's sure to make holiday shopping easier.



Cultured pearls make a happy holiday

When you think of Christmas and the holiday season in general, you may envision cozy fires, warm family gatherings and, of course, all the eagerly awaited gifts underneath your fully dressed tree. Unfortunately, you may be suddenly awakened from this dream with long lines, last-minute shopping and other details you'd just as soon forget.

So, instead of adding stress to your holiday celebration with the mere thought of what gift that special someone in your life would cherish, appreciate and actually use, make it easy on yourself — surprise her with stunning cultured pearls. Always beautiful and elegant, the gift of cultured pearls can turn your Christmas memories into an overnight St. Nick success story.

Why cultured pearls? Because of their versatility, cultured pearls can be worn by every woman, making them the always-appropriate and cherished holiday gift. From lustrous single-strand necklaces to a black pearl ring to a pair of simple stud earrings, cultured pearls are incorporated into today's modern, as well as classic, jewelry. And, as beautiful as they are practical, cultured pearls lend their classic elegance and style to any woman's wardrobe.

So, now you know why cultured pearls are a perfect pleaser for your pretty princess, but how do you know you're getting the best bang for your buck? Knowing what elements determine cultured pearl quality will arm you with the knowledge you need to make a confident purchase.

Devin Macnow, executive director of the Cultured Pearl Information Center, suggests looking for the following elements as a guide in determining cost and quality:

Luster — This is the most important element to look for in cultured pearls. Luster refers to a combination of high surface brilliance of a pearl and a three-dimensional glow that seems to emanate from within the heart of a pearl. The more brilliant and reflective the surface of the pearl, the higher its luster and value.

Generally, the luster of a pearl is determined by the thickness of its nacre, the protective coating with which an

oyster surrounds its original intruder or nucleus. Usually, the thicker the nacre, the more lustrous and durable the cultured pearl.

Surface — The second characteristic in differentiating fine- from poor-quality cultured pearls is determined by imperfections like dents, spots, scratches, bumps or blemishes, which are commonly found on a cultured pearl's surface.

Since it is extremely difficult and rare to find a blemish- and bump-free pearl, a cultured pearl possessing an almost perfect surface is very valuable.

Shape — Another cultured pearl quality factor, shape is most often thought of as round, but varies from round to off-round to asymmetrical. Just as it is rare to find a blemish-free cultured pearl, the same goes for finding a truly round cultured pearl, making a seemingly perfect symmetrical shape highly valuable.

And, although many consumers prefer a round cultured pearl, baroque and asymmetrical shapes are unique and every bit as appealing as their round counterparts.

Color — A cultured pearl quality that varies greatly, color is a personal preference for gift-givers. Cultured pearl color is a combination of body color and overtone, which makes up the many different colors you may see on the market today.

Common body colors are white, gray and black. Overtone colors, occurring by whims of nature, may include pink and cream (for white body color), blue (for gray body color), and green or purple (for black body color). A rose/white-colored cultured pearl tends to be the most desirable.

Although color, varying from green/black to pink/white to blue/gray, is considered a cultured pearl quality factor, you also may consider which color is best suited for a person's skin tone. A white/rose color tends to flatter lighter complexions, while cream tones are best for darker complexions.

Size — Measured in millimeters, size varies depending on its origin. Japanese Akoya cultured pearls, for example, range in size from 3 millimeters to 10 millimeters, while

South Sea cultured pearls range in size from 14 millimeters to 19 millimeters.

It can take up to three years to grow a 7-millimeter cultured pearl and up to six years to grow a 20-millimeter cultured pearl. Size, like color and shape, is a matter of personal preference.

In addition to these five qualities, consumers also should pay attention to the cultured pearl's price, which is every bit as important as its physical properties. Knowing what prices to expect will give you a benchmark by which you can compare different values for different types of cultured pearls.

Generally in today's market, a good-quality 16-inch strand of cultured pearls, from 7 millimeters to 7.5 millimeters, should be no less than \$1,500. A 16-inch white South Sea cultured pearl necklace, with an average 14-millimeter pearl size, on the other hand, will cost upwards of \$100,000. Large Tahitian black pearls more than 12 millimeters in size usually retail at \$70,000 for a necklace.

On the less pricey side, you still can find much fine-quality cultured pearl jewelry for less than \$500. Seven- to 7.5-millimeter cultured pearl studs, for example, usually retail for around \$150, making them a more affordable gift option.

Other cultured pearl jewelry less than \$500 may include pendants, brooches and rings. Even some beautiful freshwater cultured pearl necklaces can go for as little as \$200, making owning cultured pearls a little easier on your wallet.

Using these guidelines is a smart and easy way for anyone to select from the many different kinds of cultured pearl jewelry available this holiday season. Whichever style you choose, the gift of cultured pearls will create a lifetime of happy holiday memories.

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